REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

IN THE

PUNJAB AND ITS DEPENDENCIES,

DURING THE YEAR

1877.

Published by Authority.

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utenant Governor of the Punjab, in the Home Department, No. 2301,

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No. 905.

FROM

G. W. RIVAZ, ESQUIRE,

Registrar, Chief Court, Punjab,

To

LEPEL H. GRIFFIN, ESQUIRE,

Secretary to Government, Punjab.

Dated Lahore, the 20th April 1878.

SIR,

I AM desired by the Judges of the Chief Court to submit the prescribed Annual Statements and Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice in the Punjab during the year 1877.

Receipt of Divisional Reports.

2. The Divisional Reports were received in this office on the dates noted below :—

Lahore, February 8th.	Mooltan, March 7th.
Hissar, February 10th.	Derajat, March 7th.
Amritsar, February 19th.	Jullundur, March 8th.
Umballa, February 26th.	Rawalpindi, March 11th.
Peshawur, March 4th.	Delhi, March 20th.

The last amended return was received back on the 13th instant.

Arrangement of Report.

3. The Report briefly notices the usual subjects, in the following order :—

I.—Original Jurisdiction.

- A. General review of offences committed and brought to trial.
- B. Offences classified.
- C. Results of trials.
- D. Agency.
- E. Special Jurisdiction.
- F. Original work of Courts of Session.
- G. Witnesses.

II.—Appellate jurisdiction of Magistrates' and Sessions Courts.

III.—Punishments.

IV.—Preventive jurisdiction.

V.—Chief Court Jurisdiction.

VI.—Procedure.

PART I.—ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

A.—GENERAL REVIEW OF OFFENCES COMMITTED AND BROUGHT TO TRIAL.

Offences reported.

4. The total number of offences reported to have been committed during the year 1877 was 94,926, as compared with 92,572 in 1876, being an increase of 2,354 offences.

Results of last five years compared.

5. The following comparative table shows in the usual form the number of offences reported and struck off the register at the request of the police, and the number of cases and persons brought to trial during the past five years.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Nature of offences.	Year.	Offences reported	Offences struck off the register.	Offences admitted to have occurred.	Cases brought to trial.	Persons brought to trial.
Non-bailable	1873	34,292	3,098	31,194	16,613	26,625
	1874	30,850	2,960	27,890	15,087	23,284
	1875	29,542	2,899	26,643	14,310	22,003
	1876	*29,243	2,377	*26,866	14,056	21,005
	1877	31,202	1,525	29,677	15,570	24,574
Bailable	1873	59,694	733	58,961	56,186	123,418
	1874	65,230	842	64,388	61,118	129,763
	1875	64,321	990	63,331	62,113	130,648
	1876	*63,329	681	*62,648	59,501	129,318
	1877	63,724	456	63,268	61,089	131,381
TOTAL ...	1873	93,986	3,831	90,155	72,799	150,043
	1874	96,080	3,802	92,278	76,205	153,047
	1875	93,863	3,889	89,974	76,423	152,651
	1876	*92,572	3,058	*89,514	73,557	150,323
	1877	94,926	1,981	92,945	76,659	155,955

6. The most important feature in the table is the increase in non-bailable crime which appears during the year under report. It will be seen that a larger number of non-bailable offences were reported during the year 1877 than in any previous year since 1873. As compared with the previous year, the increase amounts to nearly 7 per cent. The slight increase in bailable crime calls for no special remark.

Increase in crime.

7. Another point in the statement which deserves to be noticed in passing is the steady decrease which has taken place in the number of non-bailable cases struck off the register of offences on the application of the police since the introduction of the system of requiring all such applications to be supported by written memoranda under the hand of the District Superintendent of Police. This system has now been adopted almost universally, and has had the effect of reducing the proportion of cases struck off the register from 4 per cent in 1873 to not quite 5 per cent in 1877. These results would seem to show that the system at all events affords a sufficient safeguard against cases being struck off too hastily.

Offences struck off the register.

The only three districts in which the proportion of non-bailable offences struck off the register exceeded 10 per cent last year were:—

Muzaffargarh	...	...	...	...	19	per cent.
Jhelum	...	...	...	...	12	„
Sirsa	...	...	...	...	11	„

The reports do not show whether in these districts the District Superintendents of Police are required to support their applications with memoranda under their own hand. Enquiry will be made on the point.

8. In bailable offences the per-centage has fallen from 1·7 to 0·7. In connection, however, with this low per-centage, as well as the high per-centage of bailable cases brought to trial, which will be noticed in the next paragraph, it must be remembered that the returns on which they are based do not include complaints of private persons dismissed under Section 147 of the Criminal Procedure Code. This omission does not probably influence to any very great extent the statistics of non-bailable offences, which for the most part come before the Court on report by the police, but it obviously affects most materially the statistics of bailable offences, which are

Low per-centage in bailable offences explained.

* NOTE.—The variations between these figures and those given in the Criminal Report for 1876 are due to errors in the returns of the Umballa District, which were not brought to light till after the submission of the report.

usually brought to notice by the party aggrieved without police intervention. The Judges are of opinion that a more correct idea would be obtained of the relation between offences reported, offences admitted to have occurred, and offences brought to trial, if complaints of private persons dismissed under Section 147 of the Criminal Procedure Code were shown in the returns in the same way that reports of the police, on which no action is taken, are now shown, and, if the Lieutenant-Governor concurs in this opinion, they will issue instructions accordingly.

Offences admitted to have occurred.

9. Offences of all kinds admitted to have occurred numbered 92,945, of which 32 per cent were non-bailable and 68 per cent were bailable.

Cases and persons brought to trial.

10. The total number of cases brought to trial has increased from 73,557 in the year 1876 to 76,659 in the year under report. In non-bailable crime the increase is in proportion to the increase in the number of admitted offences; in both years 52 per cent of the offences admitted to have been committed were brought to trial. In bailable offences the per-centage has risen from 95 to 97.

The total number of persons brought to trial increased from 1,50,323 to 1,55,935, of whom 15·7 per cent were charged with non-bailable and 84·3 per cent with bailable offences. Last year the proportions were 14 per cent and 86 per cent respectively.

Variations in non-bailable crime.

11. The increase in non-bailable crime occurred mainly under the heads of lurking house-trespass and house-breaking. It extends to all districts except Umballa, Simla, Rawalpindi, Jhelum, Mooltan, Montgomery, Muzaffargarh, Dera Ghazi Khan and Kohat, but is most marked in the following :—

Hissar	...	...	...	...	58 per cent.
Rohtak	...	...	...	...	44 „
Gurgaon	...	...	...	...	44 „
Hazara	...	...	...	...	43 „
Gujrat	...	...	...	...	35 „
Amritsar	...	...	...	...	32 „

In all these districts the increase occurred principally in the latter half of the year, and is said to be chiefly due to the pressure of high prices and distress of the poorer classes which followed the failure of the autumn rains. The Deputy Commissioner of Delhi, where non-bailable offences increased 25 per cent, has furnished an interesting statement which shows how crime increased with the rise in prices during the last four months of the year.

12. The only districts which show a substantial decrease in non-bailable crime are :—

Simla	...	...	...	...	31 per cent.
Muzaffargarh	...	...	...	...	16 „
Jhelum	...	...	...	...	14 „
Dera Ghazi Khan	...	...	...	...	13 „

No special reason is assigned for the decrease in the Simla and Muzaffargarh districts. The Commissioners of Rawalpindi and Derajat particularly note the efficiency of the criminal administration of the Jhelum and Dera Ghazi Khan districts during the year under report.

Bailable offences.

13. Of the total number of bailable offences admitted to have occurred, 34,892, or 55 per cent, were offences under the Indian Penal Code, and 28,376, or 45 per cent, were offences punishable under the Code of Criminal Procedure and Local and Special Laws. The variations in particular districts do not call for special remark.

B.—OFFENCES CLASSIFIED.

Classification of offences.

14. Imperial Return No. 2 gives full particulars regarding the number of offences reported, and the persons tried for each class of offence during the year.

The annexed table gives an abstract of so much of the return as deals with offences under the Indian Penal Code, and compares the results of the year 1877 with those of the previous year :—

Chapter and Subject.	Number of offences reported during the year.		Per-centage of increase or decrease.	Persons brought to trial during the year.		Persons convicted and committed during the year.		Per-centage of persons convicted to those brought to trial.	
	1876	1877		1876	1877	1876	1877	1876	1877
Chapter V.—Concealing design to commit offences (118—120) ...	5	1	−80·0	14	1	7	...	50·0	...
„ VII.—Offences relating to the Army and Navy (131—140) ...	2	1	−50·0	2	1	1	1	50·0	100·0
„ VIII.—Offences against the public tranquility (143—160) ...	848	793	− 6·5	6,675	5,781	4,943	4,220	74·1	72·9
„ IX.—Offences by or relating to public servants (161—171) ...	232	214	− 7·7	289	270	88	88	30·5	31·9
„ X.—Contempts of the lawful authority of public servants (172—190) ...	1,476	1,295	−12·2	2,830	2,419	1,660	1,488	58·7	61·5
„ XI.—False evidence and offences against public justice (193—229) ..	1,048	1,083	+ 3·2	1,728	1,751	928	938	53·7	53·5
„ XII.—Offences relating to coin and Government stamps (231—263) ...	220	155	−29·5	231	166	131	91	56·7	54·8
„ XIII.—Offences relating to weights and measures (264—267) ...	124	93	−25·0	176	166	108	93	61·4	56·0
„ XIV.—Offences affecting the public health, safety, convenience, decency and morals (268—294 A.) ...	631	602	− 4·6	1,941	1,682	1,520	1,193	78·3	71·0
„ XV.—Offences relating to religion (295—298)	95	88	− 7·4	203	236	40	66	19·7	28·0
„ XVI.—Offences affecting the human body—									
1.—Offences affecting life (302—311) ...	809	771	− 4·7	1,008	1,048	677	743	67·1	70·9
2.—Miscarriage, injuries to unborn children, exposure of infants, concealment of birth (312—318) ...	98	84	−14·3	130	92	76	43	58·5	46·7
3.—Hurt (323—338) ...	3,689	3,661	− 0·8	7,314	6,772	3,484	3,368	47·7	48·1
4.—Wrongful restraint and confinement (341—348) ...	670	536	−20·0	1,303	1,365	303	245	23·2	19·4
5.—Criminal force and assault (352—358),	16,581	17,548	+ 5·8	38,089	39,870	6,729	6,843	17·7	17·1
6.—Kidnapping, forcible abduction, slavery and forced labor (363—374) ...	282	272	− 3·5	335	491	93	159	27·7	32·4
7.—Rape (376) ..	192	135	−29·7	116	102	53	40	45·7	39·1
8.—Unnatural offences (377) ...	143	109	−23·8	147	99	98	56	66·7	56·5
Chapter XVII.—Offences against property—									
1.—Theft (379—382) ...	13,745	13,509	− 1·7	10,887	12,388	8,117	9,303	74·5	75·1
2.—Extortion (384—389) ...	204	177	−13·2	339	344	46	78	13·6	22·7
3.—Robbery and dacoity (392—402) ...	333	353	+ 5·7	288	513	134	347	46·5	67·6
4.—Criminal misappropriation of property (403—404) ...	466	449	− 3·6	673	711	404	446	60·0	62·7
5.—Criminal breach of trust (406—409) ...	495	479	− 3·2	529	542	271	274	51·2	50·6
6.—Receiving stolen property (411—414)...	3,032	2,859	− 5·7	3,492	4,016	2,098	2,563	60·1	63·8
7.—Cheating (417—420) ...	622	596	− 4·2	906	883	304	269	33·6	30·4
8.—Fraudulent deeds and dispositions of property (421—424) ...	23	19	−17·4	31	39	10	7	32·2	17·9
9.—Mischief (426—440) ...	2,829	2,298	−18·8	5,388	4,561	2,035	1,663	37·8	36·5
10.—Criminal trespass (447—462) ...	11,632	13,758	+18·1	6,687	7,470	3,748	4,430	56·0	59·3
Chapter XVIII.—Offences relating to documents and to trade or property marks—									
1.—Offences relating to documents (465—477) ...	141	118	−16·3	262	232	85	72	32·4	31·0
2.—Offences relating to trade and property marks (482—489) ...	16	14	−12·5	22	38	5	8	22·7	21·1
„ XIX.—Criminal breach of contracts of service (490—492) ...	34	27	−20·6	63	41	17	13	27·0	31·7
„ XX.—Offences relating to marriage (493—498) ...	3,344	3,689	+ 8·8	4,699	5,114	750	786	16·2	11·4
„ XXI.—Defamation (500—502) ...	201	222	+10·4	365	410	62	75	17·0	18·3
„ XXII.—Criminal intimidation, insult and annoyance (504—510) ...	359	493	+37·3	592	805	170	206	30·4	25·6
„ XXIII.—Attempt to commit offences (511)	15	...	...	18	...	8	...	44·4	...
Total ...	64,636	66,451	+ 2·8	97,772	100,551	39,203	40,215	40·1	39·9

15. The total number of murders reported during the year was 324, as compared with 311 in the preceding year.

Murders.

The following ten districts show the heaviest calendars :—

District.	Number of cases reported.	Persons discharged.	Persons committed for trial.
Peshawar	69	39	18
Rawalpindi	26	5	37
Kohat	25	5	7
Hazara	20	16	23
Bannu	14	1	13
Dera Ghazi Khan	14	7	15
Jhelum	13	6	28
Umballa	12	2	11
Lahore	12	5	11
Mooltan	12	4	13

It is satisfactory to find that in the Peshawar district the decrease in murders, which was commented on in last year's report, continues. Fewer cases by six were reported during the year under report than in the previous year. The only districts which show any important increase in murders are Kohat, where in two years the annual number has risen from 12 to 25, and Hazara, where 20 murders were committed during 1877, as compared with 11 in the previous year.

Of the 324 murders which were reported during the year, 28, or 8 per cent, were struck off the register of offences as never having occurred; 39 or 12 per cent, affecting 103 persons, were disposed of by Councils of Elders; and 226, or 70 per cent, involving 495 persons, were made the subject of a magisterial enquiry, with the results noted in the following classified table :—

	Offences reported.	For disposal.		Disposed of				
					Persons.			
		Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Discharged, &c.	Committed.	Died, &c.	Total.
Murders by Thugs	3	1	9	1	...	9	...	9
Murders by Dacoits	12	2	9	2	...	9	...	9
Murders by Robbers	19	13	41	11	14	19	1	34
Murders by Poison	25	17	20	16	4	15	...	19
Murders from motives connected with women	112	89	207	85	58	136	3	197
Other Murders	153	104	209	95	49	142	2	193
Total	324	226	495	210	125	330	6	461

To follow up the history of murder cases, 317 persons were tried by Courts of Session during the year on charges of murder; of these, 82 were convicted and sentenced to death, 143 were convicted and sentenced to transportation for life, and 92 persons were acquitted. The proportion of death sentences is lower than in the previous year, when out of 199 persons convicted of murder 97 were sentenced to death, and there is a corresponding increase in sentences of transportation for life. Of the 103 persons who were tried by Councils of Elders, 49 were convicted and fined, and 54 were acquitted.

16. Only 58 murderous assaults were reported during the year, as compared with 70 in the preceding year; out of 72 persons who were sent up for trial on this charge, 38 were convicted or committed to the Sessions.

Attempts to commit murder.

17. The returns show an increase of 7 per cent in cases of culpable homicide. Out of 261 persons who were prosecuted for this offence, 224, or 85 per cent, were either convicted by Magistrates of districts under Section 36 of the Criminal Procedure Code, or were committed for trial to Courts of Session.

Culpable homicides.

18. Decreases of 29 per cent in reported cases of rape, and of 23 per cent in cases of unnatural crime, are the only other variations in non-bailable offences against the person, which need be noted.

Rape and unnatural crime.

19. The annexed table compares the number of thefts and cases of receiving stolen property reported during the year 1877 with the statistics of the four previous years :—

Theft and receiving stolen property.

	1873.	1874	1875.	1876.	1877.
Ordinary thefts, including abetments and attempts	10,521	10 651	10,078	10,715	10,254
Cattle thefts, do. do. do.	5,510	3,902	3,381	2,998	3,235
Receiving stolen property	3,262	3,075	3,034	3,032	2,859
TOTAL	19,293	17,623	16,493	16,715	16,348

Ordinary thefts, it will be observed, were on the whole somewhat fewer than in the preceding year, but the decrease is confined to the Hissar, Umballa, Jullundur, Rawalpindi, Mooltan and Derajat Divisions. The remaining Divisions show an increase, and in some districts—notably Delhi, Amritsar and Hazara—the per-centage of increase is high.

The increase in cattle thefts occurred chiefly in the Gurgaon, Kangra, Gurdaspur, Mooltan and Jhang Districts.

Of the 16,404 persons who were brought to trial on charges of theft or receiving stolen property, 72 per cent were convicted. The proportion in 1876 was 71 per cent.

20. Highway robberies have increased from 83 to 104, and dacoities from 39 to 55, the Peshawur and Kohat Districts being the most conspicuous for the former offence and the Peshawur District for the latter. In both these classes of offences 83 per cent of the persons brought to trial were convicted.

Robberies and Dacoities.

21. Reported cases of serious mischief have decreased from 133 to 86. Out of 36 persons who were tried during the year under Section 436 of the Indian Penal Code, only 7 were convicted. Ordinary cases of mischief by fire too decreased from 127 to 94, and the prosecutions in these cases were attended with rather more favourable results.

Mischief.

22. Non-bailable cases of house-trespass and house-breaking have increased 33 per cent, and the returns show that out of 11,435 cases admitted to have occurred only 28 per cent were brought to trial, and further, that out of the persons who were brought to trial 30 per cent were acquitted or discharged. In other words, it appears that, roughly speaking, about 80 per cent of the total number of persons who committed burglarious attacks on house property during the year escaped punishment. These results illustrate only too clearly what has been often remarked in previous criminal reports, *viz.*, that house-breaking is a crime with which the police are at present unable to cope, and are in themselves sufficient to explain why a year of scarcity and high prices should have made its effects more manifest in this class of crime than in any other. The increase in non-bailable cases of house-trespass and house-breaking is most marked in the Sialkot, Kangra, Rohtak, Ludhiana, Hazara and Gujrat Districts.

House-trespass and house-breaking.

23. Passing on to bailable offences, we find a decrease of 7 per cent in cases of rioting. In the Rawalpindi District, where last year 86 cases were reported, only 31 cases were reported during the year 1877.

Rioting.

24. Prosecutions for giving false information with intent to injure and for making false charges have decreased 10 per cent. They were most numerous in the Umballa, Gurdaspur and Lahore Districts. The Judges still occasionally find it necessary to remind Magistrates that cases of this class cannot be tried by the Court in contempt of whose authority the false information is given or the false charge made. Of the 957 persons brought to trial under Sections 177, 182 and 211 of the Indian Penal Code, 52 per cent were convicted.

False information and false charges.

25. Fifty-nine persons were charged, under Section 304A, with causing death by a rash or negligent act, as compared with 51 persons in the preceding year, and 41 persons were convicted. A report on the working of this section was called for in your No. 779 dated 1st March 1877. The necessary information has been now collected, and the report will be shortly submitted. From the cases which from time to time come to the notice of the Chief Court it would seem that the intention of this section is as imperfectly understood in the Punjab as it is said to be in the Central Provinces.

'Causing death by rash or negligent act.

26. The returns show an increase of 9 per cent in cases of simple hurt and assault, and of 4 per cent in the number of persons prosecuted for these offences.

Hurt and assault.

The general per-centage of convictions has fallen from 21 to 20. It was lowest in the following districts :—

District.	*Per-centage of convictions.*
Sialkot	10
Gujranwala	11
Gujrat	11
Jullundur	14
Gurdaspur	14
Hoshiarpur	15
Delhi	15

The cause of the low per-centage of convictions in this class of cases has been made the subject of special enquiry during the year. It would seem that one main cause is the large number of compromises and amicable adjustments which are effected after the prosecution is commenced. The issue of a summons leads, it is said, to the intervention of friends, who procure an apology and perhaps the payment of compensation out of Court, and at the next hearing of the suit either the complainant does not appear at all, or he applies formally for permission to withdraw from the prosecution. To what extent, however, causes such as these have conduced to the general results shown in the returns, the Court has no means of judging, as the statements do not in their present form distinguish between cases in which the prosecution is withdrawn or not persisted in, and cases in which the prosecution breaks down. The Judges think that information on this point would be interesting, and they will arrange for it being furnished in future.

27. The per-centage of convictions in charges of criminal restraint has fallen from 20 to 16; in charges of cheating from 33 to 30; and in prosecutions for criminal trespass from 32 to 27;—results which would seem to imply that an increased proportion of persons succeeded during the year 1877 in launching criminal prosecutions under these sections in cases in which they should have brought civil suits.

Criminal restraint, cheating, and criminal trespass.

28. Prosecutions for cattle poisoning were less successful than in the previous year. Out of 577 persons brought to trial, 45 per cent only were convicted, whereas out of the 574 persons who were tried during the year 1876, 48 per cent were convicted.

Cattle poisoning.

29. Cases of enticing away married women have increased 7 per cent, and the per-centage of convictions has fallen from 16 to 15. It will be interesting to see how far the more complete information which next year's returns will give (*vide* para 26) will bear out the opinion expressed last year by the Deputy Commissioner of Amritsar, and repeated by Mr. Young in his report for 1877, that in a majority of these cases the only object of the husband is to recover his wife, and that when this object is attained the prosecution is not persisted in.

Enticing away a married woman.

30. During the year, 115 persons were fined summarily for contempt of court, as compared with 156 persons in the previous year.

Contempt of court.

31. The other offences under the Code of Criminal Procedure will be noticed in Part IV of this report.

Other offences under the Criminal Procedure Code.

32. The returns show that 1,286 persons were prosecuted under the Excise Laws, as compared with 1,096 persons in the previous year. The most noticeable variations are in the Amritsar and Gurdaspur Districts. In the former district 468 persons were prosecuted under Act X of 1871, as compared with 8 per-

Breaches of Excise Laws.

sons in the previous year, while in Gurdaspur the number of persons prosecuted under the same Act fell from 204 in the year 1876 to 12 in the year under report. Prosecutions for breaches of the law relating to Punjab-grown opium were most numerous in the Jhang and Jullundur Districts.

Smuggling.

33. The Gurgaon, Hissar and Rohtak statements show a large increase in cases of smuggling. The increase in the Gurgaon District is attributed by the Deputy Commissioner to the scarcity and high prices which prevailed during the latter half of the year. The Deputy Commissioner of Hissar, on the other hand, traces the increase in his district to recent reductions in the Customs Establishment. Of the 870 persons who were proceeded against during the year, 89 per cent were convicted.

Breaches of Forest Laws.

34. During the year, 1,854 persons were punished for offences under the Forest Laws, as against 1,981 persons in 1876.

Gambling.

35. There is an increase of 49 per cent in prosecutions under the Gaming Act. The largest number of cases (55) occurred in the Amritsar District.

Cattle Trespass Act.

36. During the year, 2,913 persons were proceeded against under the Cattle Trespass Act of 1871, and 26 per cent were convicted. Last year 2,576 persons were charged, and 31 per cent were convicted.

Breaches of Sanitary Laws.

37. The returns show an increase of 4 per cent in prosecutions for breaches of the law relating to sanitation and nuisances.

Prosecutions under the Track Law.

38. Fines were imposed on 33 persons under the Track Law; 112 persons were fined in 1876.

Cases under the Criminal Tribes' Act.

39. Prosecutions under the Criminal Tribes' Act have increased from 215 to 300. Out of 484 persons placed on their trial, 372, or 85 per cent, were convicted.

Frontier Rules.

40. Cases disposed of under the Frontier Rules will be noticed under the head of Special Jurisdiction.

C.—RESULT OF TRIALS.

Persons sent up for trial.

41. Imperial Return No. 3 shows that 154,362 persons were sent up for trial during the year 1877, as compared with 148,733 persons in the previous year.

How such persons came before the Court.

42. The manner in which these persons came before the Courts is set forth in the following table, which also gives the same information for the year 1876.

In what manner.	1876.		1877.	
	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.
Under arrest by police	69,865	39·9	62,837	40·4
Under warrant	8,415	5·7	9,268	6·0
Upon summons	74,298	49·9	77,317	50·1
Voluntarily	6,617	4·5	5,405	3·5
By transfer	38	·0	35	·0
Total	148,733	100	154,362	100

General results of trials.

43. Including 1,593 persons awaiting trial at the close of 1876, there were 155,955 persons for disposal during the year.

Of these, 154,123, or 99 per cent, were disposed of as follows :—

Committed to the Sessions for trial	829, or ·6	per cent.
Convicted	80,340, or 52·1	„
Acquitted	19,150, or 12·4	„
Discharged	53,574, or 34·7	„
Died, escaped or transferred	230, or ·2	„

Leaving 1,832 persons under trial at the close of the year.

Results of trials in each district.

44. The results of the trials and enquiries in the different districts are summed up in the following table. The totals of the previous year have been added for comparison.

District.	Committed for and convicted of non-bailable offences.	Committed for and convicted of bailable offences under the I. P. C.	Committed for and convicted of offences under the C. P. C. and Special and Local Laws	Total per-cent committed and convicted for all offences.
Delhi	76·4	17·8	72·1	49·2
Gurgaon	74·7	44 6	73·6	62 7
Karnál	68·2	58·1	74 9	68·0
Hissár	71·7	32 4	84 3	57·8
Rohtak	71·2	50·0	82·1	68·9
Sirsa	71·9	38·3	70·8	56·9
Umbálla	66·1	36·3	76·2	55·4
Ludhiána	74·5	25·7	70·5	44·6
Simla	73·1	31·8	95 0	78·4
Jullundur	74·2	22·9	70·5	47·9
Hoshiárpur	70·1	20 6	47·4	34·5
Kángra	74·3	34 7	84·0	57·8
Amritsar	69·1	17·1	74·5	44·9
Gurdáspur	71·9	18 9	53·3	33·9
Sialkot	72·8	13 9	60·7	31·8
Lahore	73·0	26 2	81·1	60·3
Gujranwála	77·6	15 9	86 5	41·7
Ferozepore	77·3	40 0	86·4	60 9
Ráwalpindi	73·4	38 5	72·5	55·1
Jhelum	67 8	37·2	66 6	49·1
Gujrát	68·6	22·9	37·1	32 7
Sháhpur	71·7	45·3	76 7	60 9
Mooltán	69·9	42 5	74·9	60·1
Jhang	74·5	34·8	64·1	55 1
Montgomery	78·5	38·4	70 5	66·7
Muzaffargarh	71·6	40·8	77 4	57·6
Dera Ismail Khán	69·2	52·2	86 4	69·0
Dera Ghazi Khán	79·6	56 8	78·9	66·2
Bannú	64·3	49 8	73 6	64·1
Peshávar	61·7	52·2	80·6	70 0
Hazára	62 7	30 8	62·3	44·0
Kohát	36 9	61·2	61·2	57·1
Total { 1877 ...	70·9	30·3	74·6	52 7
Total { 1876 ...	68·3	32 2	74·9	52·3

45. The proportion of convictions in non-bailable cases is 2 per cent higher than in 1876, and is good in all districts except Kohat. The low per-centage of convictions in cases disposed of by Councils of Elders in the Kohat district is said to be partly due to a practice having sprung up of allowing the accused persons in every case to clear themselves by the oath of compurgators. The Deputy Commissioner reports that he has now prohibited the practice in all but very doubtful cases. The improved per-centages in the Delhi, Gurgaon, Bannu and Hazara districts deserve to be noticed. The improvement in the last two districts, where the per-centage has hitherto been considerably below the provincial average, is especially satisfactory.

Proportion of convictions in non-bailable cases.

46. In bailable offences tried under the Indian Penal Code, the low per-centages of the Amritsar Division are again conspicuous. In the Delhi district the per-centage has fallen from 26 to 18, and in Gujranwala from 20 to 16. The Jullundur statistics on the other hand show an improvement of 6 per cent.

Proportion in bailable cases.

47. The low per-centages of convictions in cases tried under the Criminal Procedure Code and Local and Special Laws in the Hoshiarpur, Gurdaspur and Gujrat districts are in each case mainly due to a large number of unsuccessful applications under Section 536 of the Criminal Procedure Code and the Cattle Trespass Act of 1871. In Hoshiarpur, the per-centage is also affected by a large number of unsuccessful prosecutions under Section 491 of the Criminal Procedure Code. Out of 102 persons proceeded against as likely to cause a breach of the peace, the prosecution was successful in the case of 19 persons only.

Proportion in cases tried under the Criminal Procedure Code and Local and Special Laws.

48. To pass on to the remaining details of disposal shown in Imperial Return No. 3, it may be remarked that of the 1,832 persons whose cases had not been disposed of at the end of the year, 1,402 were charged with bailable, and only 430 with non-bailable offences. The heaviest pending file was in the Sialkot district, where 272 were under trial at the close of the year, of whom 52 were charged with non-bailable offences.

Pending files.

49. The oldest pending cases were in the Kohat and Mooltan districts, and dated from the 20th and 31st July respectively. The Kohat case was a petty assault case which had been postponed in consequence of the absence of Nawab Bahadur Sher Khan on political duty. The cause of delay in the Mooltan case is being enquired into.

Oldest pending cases.

50. There is no alteration in the general duration of cases disposed of by District Courts. The average duration has been 8 days for the last four years.

Average duration of cases.

It was highest in the following districts :—

Hoshiarpur	...	...	...	15 days.
Amritsar	...	...	...	14 „
Jullundur	...	...	...	13 „
Gujrat	...	...	...	13 „
Jhang	...	...	...	13 „
Gurdaspur	...	...	...	12 „

The above figures include cases disposed of by Magistrates of Districts under Section 36 of the Criminal Procedure Code. The average duration of such cases taken alone was 13 days, as in the previous year.

Proportion of persons tried for non-bailable offences to population.

51. The following table compares the number of persons tried during the years 1876 and 1877, for non-bailable offences with the population of each Division :—

Division.				1876.	1877.
Derajat, per 1,000 of population			...	1·8	1·8
Mooltán,	do.	„	...	1·8	1·8
Peshawar,	do.	„	...	1·6	1·7
Lahore,	do.	„	...	1·4	1·6
Hissár,	do.	„	...	1·0	1·6
Umbálla,	do.	„	...	1·3	1·3
Amritsar,	do.	„	...	1·1	1·3
Delhi,	do.	„	...	1·0	1·3
Ráwalpindi,	do.	„	...	1·1	1·2
Jullundur,	do.	„	...	0·7	0·8
		Provincial per-centage	...	1·5	1·6

It will be seen that the per-centages of the Delhi and Hissar Divisions were most affected by the increase in non-bailable crime which occurred in the year under report.

D.—AGENCY FOR DISPOSAL OF CRIMINAL WORK.

By what agency cases were disposed of.

52. Altogether, 76,228 cases were disposed of by the Criminal Courts of the Punjab during the year 1877, as under :—

Courts.	Number.	Per-centage.
By the Chief Court	1	·0
By Courts of Session	389	·5
By Magistrates of Districts	3,789	5·0
By other Stipendiary Magistrates	58,695	77·0
By Honorary Magistrates	13,354	17·5

Distribution of work in districts.

53. The annexed statement shows in detail how criminal work has been distributed among the several Courts of districts during the past three years. On the present occasion the statement has been amplified so as to show the average number of cases disposed of by each class of Court, as well as the proportion which the disposals of each class bear to the total disposals of the year. The statement includes, as usual, cases disposed of by Deputy Commissioners under Section 36 of the Criminal Procedure Code, and also cases disposed of by Deputy Commissioners of frontier districts with the assistance of Councils of Elders.

Class of Courts.	Cases disposed of.			Per-centage.			Average Number of cases decided by officers of each grade		
	1875.	1876.	1877.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1875.	1876.	1877.
Deputy Commissioners	4,184	3,657	3,789	5·5	5·0	4·9	131	114	118
Judicial Assistants	...	1,650	2,390	...	2·3	3·2	...	79	114
Assistant Commissioners	11,452	7,928	7,468	15·0	10·9	9·9	179	124	114
Extra Assistant Commissioners ...	18,282	18,893	19,057	24·1	26·0	25·2	181	187	188
Tahsildars	18,022	20,170	21,058	23·8	27·7	27·7	150	168	175
Naib Tahsildars with Judicial powers	6,747	4,774	4,922	8·9	6·6	6·5	132	93	96
Cantonment Magistrates	5,345	4,590	3,795	7·0	6·3	5·0	668	574	474
Small Cause Courts	91	12	4	0·1	0·02	0·0	23	6	2
Canal Officers	464	443	622	0·6	0·6	0·9	39	44	56
Forest Officers	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Jail Officers	4	211	...	0·005	0·3	...	2	70	...
Boards of Honorary Magistrates ...	5,599	6,191	7,941	7·4	8·5	10·4	559	619	611
Jaghirdar Magistrates	2,471	1,424	2,073	3·3	1·9	2·7	165	119	99
Honorary Magistrates sitting alone ...	2,933	2,741	2,718	3·9	3·7	3·6	244	228	135
Munsiffs	...	...	1	...	...	·0	...	...	1

Proportion performed by Dy. Comrs., A. Comrs. and Extra A. Commissioners.

54. It will be seen that the proportion of criminal work disposed of by Deputy Commissioners, Assistant Commissioners, and Extra Assistant Commissioners has not materially altered during the last two years.

Work of Judicial Assistants.

55. Judicial Assistants disposed of 2,390 cases in 1877, as compared with 1,650 cases in 1876. The following were the districts in which Judicial Assistants took up the largest amount of original criminal business :—

Gurdaspur	... Muhammad Hyat Khan,	...	302 cases.
Gujrat	... Hadi Hussain Khan, Ghulam Nabi Khan, Sohan Lal,	...	229 „
Hoshiarpur	... Mr. A. J. S. Donald	...	197 „
Kangra	... Mr. C. R. Hawkins, Mr. F. P. Beachcroft,	...	189 „
Mooltan	... Col. H. V. Riddell,	...	180 „

The large number of criminal cases disposed of by the Judicial Assistants of the Gurdaspur, Gujrat and Hoshiarpur districts, in addition to heavy civil work, is very creditable to the officers concerned.

Work performed by Tahsildars.

56. To pass on to the criminal work of Tahsildars, it will be observed that, though the proportion of work performed by Tahsildars has not altered, and the actual number of cases disposed of in Tahsildars' Courts during 1877 is even slightly in advance of the figures of the previous year, the average number of cases disposed of by each Tahsildar does not exceed 175 cases for the year, or about 14 cases a month—a number which the Judges do not think, the Honorable the Lieutenant Governor will consider excessive. In the following districts, however, this average was considerably exceeded :—

District.	*Average number of cases decided by each Tahsildar during the year.*
Gujrat	376
Kangra	290
Hoshiarpur	274
Amritsar	271
Jullundur	268
Sialkot	256

In all these districts, except Kangra the pressure of judicial work was heavy in all Courts, but there appears no sufficient cause for the high average in the Kangra district. At the commencement of the current year a Circular was issued drawing general attention to the apprehensions expressed by the Lieutenant Governor in his review of the Criminal Report for 1876 that Tahsildars were being employed too largely in the administration of criminal justice, to the prejudice of their important administrative and executive duties. The Deputy Commissioner of Kangra has since been specially addressed on the subject.

Boards of Magistrates.

57. Boards of Honorary and Municipal Magistrates disposed of 7,941 cases during the year, as compared with 6,191 cases in 1876, and 5,599 cases in 1875. The work of the following Boards deserves special notice :—

The Board of City Magistrates		at Amritsar	... ...	1,972 cases.
Do.	do.	at Delhi	... ...	1,502 „
Do.	do.	at Mooltan	... ...	949 „
Do.	do.	at Gujranwala	... ...	869 „
Do.	do.	at Lahore	... ...	849 „

The first and last two of these Boards exercise 2nd Class Magisterial powers. The Mooltan Board exercises 3rd Class Magisterial powers. A high tribute is paid to the efficiency and usefulness of the Delhi, Mooltan, Gujranwalla and Lahore Boards. The Amritsar Board is not quite so favorably reported on by the Commissioner.

Honorary Magistrates sitting alone.

58. Honorary and Jaghirdar Magistrates sitting alone disposed of 4,791 cases, or over 6 per cent of the whole number disposed of during the year. The following table contains the names of Honorary and Jaghirdar Magistrates who rendered most assistance to the Administration during the year :—

District.	Name of Magistrate.	Powers.	Number of cases disposed of.
Amritsar ...	Sirdar Ajit Singh ...	1st class ...	417
Do. ...	Raja Surat Singh ...	2nd class ...	360
Ludhiana ...	Shahzadah Nadir ...	3rd class ...	353
Ferozepore ...	Pir Abas Khan ...	2nd class ...	276
Gujranwala ...	Sirdar Jhanda Singh ...	1st class ...	218
Ferozepore ...	Sodhi Man Singh ...	1st class ...	165

The local authorities cordially acknowledge the material assistance rendered to the administration by these gentlemen. Besides the Magistrates named above, the services of Bedi Sujan Singh and Sirdar Rajindar Singh in the Hoshiarpur District, of the Raja of Nadaon in the Kangra District, and of Raja Sir Sahib Dyal, K. C. S. I. and Diwan Narinjan Das in the Gurdaspur District, are specially noticed in the divisional and district reports.

Results of trials in the different classes of Courts.

59. The general results of trials and enquiries in the several districts are shown in the statement annexed to para 44 of this report. The following table shows the proportions in which convictions and commitments were obtained in the different classes of courts :—

Class of Courts.	Persons disposed of		Persons convicted and committed.	
	Number.	Per-cent.	Number.	Per-cent.
Deputy Commissioners	7,592	4·9	5,280	69·5
Judicial Assistants { Europeans	2,179	1·4	1,213	55·7
Judicial Assistants { Natives	2,214	1·5	1,111	50·2
Assistant Commissioners	14,788	9·6	9,502	64·2
Extra Assistant Commissioners { Europeans	5,656	3·7	2,965	52·4
Extra Assistant Commissioners { Natives	30,111	19·5	15,689	52·1
Tahsildars	45,535	29·5	21,554	47·3
Naib-Tahsildars	11,729	7·5	4,340	37·1
Cantonment Magistrates	7,310	4·7	5,544	75·8
Small Cause Courts	5	...	4	80·0
Canal officers	1,667	1·1	1,158	69·4
Boards of Hony. Magistrates	15,488	10·0	8,239	53·2
Jaghirdar Magistrates	4,229	2·8	1,936	45·8
Hony. Magistrates sitting alone	5,620	3·7	2,634	46·9
Total { 1877	1,54,123	...	81,169	52·7
Total { 1876	1,48,730	...	78,542	52·8

It will be observed that generally better results were obtained in the courts presided over by European officers than in the courts of Native Magistrates.

Distribution of work between grades of Magistrates.

60. Excluding cases disposed of under Section 36 of the Criminal Procedure Code, and cases disposed of in frontier districts by the Deputy Commissioner with the assistance of a Council of Elders, 74,642 cases were disposed of by Magistrates in the exercise of their ordinary magisterial powers. These cases were distributed between the three classes of Magistrates as under :—

Class.	Number of cases.	Per-centage.
Magistrate 1st class	34,493	46
Magistrate 2nd class	29,815	40
Magistrate 3rd class	10,334	14
Total ...	74,642	100

The per-centages are not materially different from those of the previous year.

Distribution between European and Native agency.

61. Of the total number of cases disposed of by District Courts, 25·7 per cent were disposed of by European, and 74·3 per cent by Native agency. Last year the per-centages were 27·3 and 72·7 respectively.

Work performed by Deputy Commissioners.

62. Altogether, Deputy Commissioners disposed of 3,789 original criminal cases during the year, as compared with 3,687 cases in the year 1876.

The annexed table shows in full detail the criminal work disposed of by the Deputy Commissioner of each district.

District.	Under his enhanced powers, Section 36 Act X of 1872.	Under his Magisterial powers.	With the assistance of a Council of Elders.	Under his Appellate powers.
Delhi	40	78	...	21
Gurgáon	15	39	...	64
Karnál	9	36	...	27
Hissár	30	160	...	53
Rohtak	16	139	...	98
Sirsa	11	84	...	31
Umbálla	20	26	...	31
Ludhiána	26	33	...	75
Simla	2	121	...	...
Jullundur	12	35	...	82
Hoshiarpur	18	21	...	102
Kángra	15	61	...	69
Amritsar	45	73	...	123
Gurdaspur	33	138	...	89
Sialkot	43	49	...	98
Lahore	41	99	...	151
Gujránwála...	18	180	...	79
Ferozpore	20	35	...	104
Rawalpindi	32	24	...	137
Jhelum	15	44	...	63
Gujrat	40	158	...	99
Shahpur	2	18	...	26
Mooltan	45	152	...	52
Jhang	19	70	...	104
Montgomery	29	84	...	30
Muzaffargarh	17	61	...	23
Dera Ismail Khán	31	141	24	23
Dera Ghazi Khán	30	161	8	26
Bannu	24	222	68	40
Peshawár	...	86	176	18
Hazára	24	18	52	36
Kohát	4	57	142	2
Total ...	726	2,593	470	1,976

Excluding cases tried in frontier districts by Councils of Elders, in which the orders were merely confirmed by the Deputy Commissioner, the following Deputy Commissioners disposed of the largest number of original criminal cases :—

The Deputy Commissioner of Bannu	Major Johnstone Mr. Beckett	...	246 cases.
The Deputy Commissioner of Gujranwala	Mr. Bulman	...	198 „
The Deputy Commissioner of Gujrat	Col. Parsons Mr. Wilkinson	...	198 „
The Deputy Commissioner of Mooltan	Col. Birch Mr. Benton	...	197 „
The Deputy Commissioner of Dera Ghazi Khan	Mr. Fryer	...	191 „

In the Hoshiarpur and Shahpur districts very little criminal work was disposed of by the Magistrate of the District.

E.—SPECIAL JURISDICTION.

Section 36 Criminal Procedure Code.

63. During the year under report 726 cases were disposed of by Deputy Commissioners under Section 36 of the Criminal Procedure Code, as compared with * 715 cases in the previous year. Of this number, curiously enough, exactly one half were cases triable exclusively by a Court of Sessions, the other half being cases triable by a Magistrate in which the Deputy Commissioner exceeded his ordinary magisterial powers of punishment.

The Deputy Commissioner of Peshawar disposed of no cases under this jurisdiction, having, it is understood, been overburdened with political work. In the opinion of the Judges, it is a matter of regret that in a district like Peshawar, noted for serious burglaries, affrays, and such like offences, the special jurisdiction conferred by Section 36 of the Criminal Procedure Code should not be made use of. When all cases in which a heavier sentence than two years is called for are committed to the Sessions, comparative long delay in their disposal is generally inevitable, and the deterrent affect, which may be hoped for when punishment quickly follows the crime, is impaired.

Details of disposal.

64. The number of persons who were disposed of under the provisions of Section 36 Criminal Procedure Code was 1,393 ; of these, 952, or 68 per cent. were convicted, and 441, or 32 per cent, were acquitted or discharged,

The per-centage of acquittals and discharges was highest in the following Courts :—

Court.	*Number of persons disposed of.*	*Per-centage of acquittals and discharges.*
Deputy Commissioner of Muzaffargarh	48	83
Deputy Commissioner of Jhelum	29	58
Deputy Commissioner of Montgomery	41	51

The large number of acquittals and discharges in the Court of the Deputy Commissioner of Muzaffargarh attracted the attention of the Chief Court during the course of the year, and led to a special reference to the Commissioner of Mooltan. The high proportions in the Jhelum and Montgomery districts are not noticed in the local reports.

Of the 952 persons who were convicted by Deputy Commissioners acting under Section 36 of the Criminal Procedure Code, 259, or 27 per cent, were punished with terms of imprisonment exceeding three years, and their sentences were referred to the Sessions Judge for confirmation. Of the sentences thus referred, 226 were confirmed, 23 were modified, 8 were annulled, and 2 remained undisposed of at the end of the year.

Summary trials.

65. The following table shows the number of persons and cases disposed of on summary trial in the different districts, and compares the general results of the year 1877 with those of the year preceding it :—

* NOTE.—The number shown in the report for 1876 included 48 cases disposed of by Councils of Elders in the Bannu district.

Districts.	Summary Jurisdiction.		
	Persons.		
	Acquitted, discharged, &c.	Convicted.	Total cases disposed of.
Delhi	71	264	144
Gurgáon...	28	130	95
Karnál	12	13	16
Hissár	...	13	12
Rohtak	...	...	...
Sirsa	7	42	33
Umbálla	366	341	696
Ludhiána	50	61	69
Simla	3	872	212
Jullundur	96	323	225
Hoshiárpur	20	33	44
Kángra	17	47	50
Amritsar	1,396	2,162	1,517
Gurdáspur	344	360	427
Siálkot	238	107	185
Lahore	106	813	628
Gujránwála	97	556	362
Ferozepore	22	91	111
Rawalpindi	319	1,314	1,124
Jhelum	52	177	92
Gujrát	64	128	91
Sháhpur	60	139	87
Mooltán	263	777	513
Jhang	9	27	27
Montgomery	6	46	28
Muzaffargarh	5	16	17
Déra Ismail Khán	61	103	70
Dera Ghazi Khán	...	35	18
Bannú	17	25	19
Peshâwar	70	155	104
Hazára	...	8	3
Kohát	4	58	23
Total ... 1877	3,803	9,239	7,042
Total ... 1876	3,973	6,000	5,343

The increase in the number of persons and cases shown in the returns for 1877 is chiefly a nominal one, due to more correct classification. Last year, the returns of only a few districts included cases under the Cantonment Act tried summarily. This defect has been remedied in the present returns.

Exercise of summary powers by Boards of Magistrates.

66. The Board of Honorary Magistrates for the city of Amritsar continues, as far as can be gathered from the reports, to be the only Board of Magistrates which exercises its summary jurisdiction, though the Deputy Commissioner of Delhi reports that the procedure of the Honorary Board of that city differs very slightly from that laid down for summary trials. Mr. Smyth goes on to say that he thinks that the summary procedure might with advantage be adopted in its entirety; he has been requested to pass orders accordingly. The Deputy Commissioner of Gujranwala, in noting that the Gujranwala Honorary Magistrates still keep full records, expresses an opinion that it is best that they should do so. The Commissioner of Lahore dissents from this opinion, and the Court concurs with Colonel Hall in thinking that, where due precautions are taken to see that the procedure laid down in Sections 227 and 228 of the Criminal Procedure Code is strictly adhered to, there is no objection to Benches of Honorary Magistrates making a free use of their summary powers in the petty cases which come before

them. The other districts in the Punjáb where there are Boards with 2nd class magisterial powers are those noted in the margin. The Deputy Commissioner of Lahore merely notes that the Lahore Board does not exercise its summary powers. It would also seem that the Jullundur, Batala and Dera Ismail Khan Boards never try cases summarily, but the district reports are not very clear on the point. The attention of the Commissioners within whose jurisdictions these Boards sit has been drawn to the remarks made by the Lieutenant-Governor in para 7 of his review of the Criminal Report for 1876, and they have been requested to give effect to His Honor's wish, that Honorary Boards should exercise more largely their power of summary trial, unless there are in any case special reasons which render the exercise of such powers undesirable.

Lahore.
Jullundur.
Batala.
Dera Ismail Khan.

Jurisdiction over European British subjects.

67. Altogether, 173 European British subjects were tried on criminal charges during the year, as compared with 195 in the previous year.

All but one of these persons were disposed of by Magistrates. One person was committed to the Chief Court on charges of criminal misappropriation and criminal breach of trust, and was acquitted.

Of the 172 persons who were disposed of in Magistrates' Courts, 110 were convicted. Three persons were sentenced to the full term of 3 months' imprisonment—two for theft and one for perjury; 11 persons were sentenced to terms of rigorous imprisonment varying from 8 days to two months, and two persons were sentenced to short terms of simple imprisonment. The rest of the persons convicted were either fined or (in two instances) were called on to furnish security to keep the peace.

Cases disposed of under Frontier Rules.

68. The following statement shows the use which has been made during the past two years of the Frontier Rules in the several districts in which they are in force :—

District.	*Regulation I of 1872, Sec. 3.* Villages fined for suppression of evidence or harbouring criminals.		*Regulation I of 1872, Sec. 4.* Cases in which persons were reported on account of quarrels likely to lead to bloodshed.		*Regulation I of 1872, Sec. 8.* Adultery.		*Regulation IV of 1873, Sec. 2.* Reference to Council of Elders.	
	1876	1877	1876	1877	1876	1877	1876	1877
Dera Ismail Khán	...	...	...	...	6	5	4	24
Dera Ghazi Khán	...	4	...	...	2	6	1	8
Bannú	...	1	...	...	4	9	48	68
Peshawar	8	10	27	14	...	..	192	176
Hazára	2	...	...	...	...	...	48	52
Kohát	1	4	...	...	22	6	202	142
TOTAL ...	11	19	27	14	34	26	495	470

It will be observed that in both years Section 3 of Regulation IV of 1873 was most freely used in the Peshawar and Kohat districts. In the Dera Ghazi Khan district only one case was referred to a council of elders in 1876, and eight cases in the year under report, and comparatively few references were made in the Dera Ismail Khan district.

The number of persons concerned in the 470 cases which were disposed of by Councils of Elders was 1,147; of these, 584, or nearly 51 per cent, were convicted. The proportion of convictions in the different districts stands thus :—

Dera Ismail Khan	84 per cent
Dera Ghazi Khan	69 „
Bannu	38 „
Peshawar	65 „
Hazara	40 „
Kohat	37 „

F.—ORIGINAL WORK OF COURTS OF SESSION.

69. The subjoined statement gives full particulars regarding the original work performed by Courts of Session during the year under report, and compares the general results of the year 1877 with those of the previous year :—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	For Disposal.								Disposed of												
Divisions.	Pending from 1876.		Committed to the Sessions during 1877.		Received by Transfer.		Total.		Convicted and referred to Chief Court under Sec. 287 C. P. C.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Died, escaped or transferred.	Total.		Pending at end of the year.		Per-centage of persons convicted.	Number of cases pending over three months.	Average duration.	Number of witnesses who attended.	Date of oldest case pending.
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.					Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.					
Delhi ..	1	1	18	60	..	..	19	61	..	44	12	..	14	56	5	5	78·6	..	86	214	4th October 1877.
Hissar ..	2	4	22	78	..	..	24	82	6	41	35	..	44	82	..	..	57·3	..	44	388	..
Umballa ..	2	4	28	72	..	..	30	76	3	55	15	..	28	73	2	3	79·4	..	51	435	8th Decr. 1877.
Jullundur ..	5	5	25	32	..	..	30	37	2	27	6	..	23	35	2	2	82·8	..	30	230	22nd Novr. 1877.
Amritsar ..	7	27	26	50	..	..	33	77	12	50	13	..	31	75	2	2	82·7	1	68	304	8th August 1877.
Lahore ..	11	18	26	39	..	..	37	57	14	25	18	..	37	57	..	..	68·4	..	58	209	..
Rawalpindi ..	4	9	62	115	..	..	66	124	32	53	20	..	59	111	7	13	76·6	1	55	827	14th Septr. 1877.
Mooltan ..	3	6	39	76	..	..	42	82	..	55	21	..	37	76	5	6	72·4	..	63	360	12th Novr. 1877
Derajat ..	2	2	23	45	..	..	25	47	0	34	7	..	25	47	..	..	85·1	..	32	401	..
Peshawar ..	10	27	110	206	..	..	120	233	11	127	65	2	106	205	14	28	67·3	6	53	1,280	27th July 1877.
Total (1877	47	103	379	773	1	4	426	876	80	511	218	2	389	817	37	59	73·1	8	54	4,780	27th July 1877.
Total (1876	37	91	392	745	..	..	430	840	97	360	272	7	383	736	47	104	62·1	6	50	4,207	28th July 1876.

70. From the above it will be seen that 13 fewer cases were committed to the Sessions during 1877 than in the previous year, but that they involved a larger number of persons. The Courts in which the variations are most marked are the Derajat Court, which shows a calendar of 23 cases and 45 persons only, as compared with 61 cases and 106 persons in the previous year, and the Peshawar Court, where the number of commitments increased from 86 to 110, and the number of persons to be tried from 188 to 206. The large decrease in the Derajat Court is due partly to a diminution of heinous crime, and partly to the fact that the officer in charge of the Dera Ghazi Khan district was invested with enhanced powers under Section 36 of Act X of 1872 at the commencement of the year. The increase in the Peshawar Court is not explained, but it may partly be accounted for by the fact of the Deputy Commissioner of Peshawur having failed to exercise his powers under Section 36.

Variations in number of commitments.

71. Including 103 persons awaiting trial at the close of the previous year, there were 876 persons for disposal during the year. Of these, 817, or 93 per cent, were disposed of as follows :—

Details of disposal.

		Number.	*Per-centage.*
Convicted and sentenced to death	...	86	10·5
Convicted and sentenced otherwise	...	511	62·5
Acquitted	...	218	26·8
Died, escaped, or transferred ...	...	2	·2

Leaving 59 persons under trial at the close of the year.

72. The general per-centage of convictions has increased from 62 to 73. It was highest in the Derajat Division, where 85 per cent of the persons brought to trial were convicted, and was lowest in the Hissar Division, where, the Commissioner of Hissar explains, injudicious committals in the Badli grain riot case led to many acquittals.

73. The heaviest pending file at the close of the year was in the Peshawar Court, where, it will be observed, the work was heaviest. The oldest pending case was also a case in the same Court, which was committed for trial on the 27th July 1877 from the Kohat district. The disposal of the case is said to have been delayed by the Pass complications and Jowaki expedition.

Pending files and cases.

74. The average duration of Sessions trials, reckoned from date of commitment to date of final order, has increased from 50 to 54 days. It was undesirably high in the Delhi, Amritsar and Mooltan Courts.

Average duration of cases.

75. No European British subjects were tried by Courts of Session during the year.

Jurisdiction over European British subjects.

G.—WITNESSES.

Attendance of witnesses.

76. The total number of witnesses who attended Criminal Courts during the year was 206,241. Of this number, 201,455 attended in District Courts, 4,786 in Courts of Session, and 3 in the Chief Court.

Detention of witnesses.

77. The subjoined statement compares the detention of witnesses in District Courts for the years 1876 and 1877 :—

PERIODS.	1876.		1877.	
	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.
Discharged after one day's attendance	162,480	90	178,884	89
Discharged on the second day	13,201	7	17,065	8
Discharged on the third day	2,995	2	3,687	2
Detained for more than 3 days	1,195	1	1,819	1
TOTAL ...	179,871	100	201,455	100

It will be seen that the general results are not quite so satisfactory for 1877 as for 1876.

The longest detention of witnesses occurred in the Bannu district, where 19 witnesses were detained for 16 days by Captain Roberts in an intricate murder case.

Expenses of witnesses.

78. The following statement shows the number of witnesses dieted, and the amount expended in diet money, in the several districts. The figures do not include sums paid to witnesses for attendance in Sessions Courts.

DISTRICTS.	Number of witnesses examined.	Actual number of witnesses dieted.	NUMBER OF WITNESSES DIETED BY		AMOUNT OF DIET MONEY PAID			AVERAGE COST OF EACH WITNESS DIETED		Per-centage of witnesses dieted to the number examined.
			Police.	Magistrate.	By Police.	By Magistrate.	Total.	By Police.	By Magistrate.	
Delhi	8,627	815	230	585	45	420	465	... 3 1	... 11 6	9·4
Gurgaon	7,560	1,686	1,336	1,359	513	822	1,335	... 6 2	... 9 8	22·3
Karnal	5,277	1,344	1,276	254	193	122	315	... 2 5	... 7 8	25·5
Hissar	6,851	1,155	439	914	33	269	302	... 1 4	... 3 10	16·8
Rohtak	7,049	2,846	1,758	1,625	248	640	888	... 2 3	... 6 4	40·4
Sirsa	2,287	541	462	190	43	55	98	... 1 6	... 4 8	23·6
Umballa	10,357	3,263	1,568	1,990	413	1,106	1,519	... 4 3	... 8 11	31·5
Ludhiana	4,888	3,160	1,629	3,160	373	1,180	1,553	... 3 8	... 6 1	64·6
Simla	2,089	36	...	36	...	58	58	... ...	1 9 3	1·7
Jullundur	4,933	1,204	235	1,174	44	364	408	... 3 0	... 5 0	24·4
Hoshiarpur	6,085	3,563	2,195	2,730	544	1,174	1,718	... 3 11	... 3 10	58·6
Kangra	3,759	933	797	383	170	161	331	... 3 5	... 6 8	24·8
Amritsar	13,545	1,689	640	1,631	182	465	647	... 4 7	... 4 7	12·5
Gurdaspur	9,502	1,407	890	1,358	169	556	725	... 3 0	... 6 6	14·8
Sialkot	7,875	4,574	3,613	1,970	732	502	1,234	... 3 4	... 4 1	58·1
Lahore	9,827	5,267	3,887	2,654	839	635	1,474	... 8 0	... 5 6	53·6
Gujranwala	9,206	2,159	1,660	615	314	254	568	... 3 0	... 6 7	23·3
Ferozepore	5,240	1,991	1,574	1,554	513	443	956	... 5 3	... 4 7	38·0
Rawalpindi	8,494	2,975	2,567	716	778	222	1,000	... 4 10	... 5 0	35·0
Jhelum	6,431	954	654	368	110	294	404	... 2 8	... 12 9	15·0
Gujrat	6,205	2,539	2,526	65	319	73	392	... 2 0	1 1 11	40·9
Shahpur	4,253	1,195	1,032	403	341	171	512	... 5 3	... 6 10	28·1
Mooltan	8,254	2,829	2,452	1,630	771	871	1,642	... 5 0	... 8 7	34·2
Jhang	3,238	1,713	1,661	571	448	361	809	... 4 4	... 10 1	52·9
Montgomery	5,091	3,015	3,057	340	581	113	694	... 3 1	... 5 4	59·8
Muzaffargarh	4,890	3,165	2,073	2,365	407	724	1,131	... 3 1	... 4 10	64·7
Dera Ismail Khan	3,690	994	847	835	189	681	870	... 3 7	... 13 0	27·0
D. G. Khan	4,386	645	...	645	...	235	235	... ...	... 5 10	14·7
Bannu	4,824	326	75	251	75	420	495	... 15 11	1 10 9	6·7
Peshawar	8,961	47	...	47	...	83	83	... ...	1 12 0	0·5
Hazara	6,289	3,301	...	3,301	...	1,258	1,258	... ...	... 6 1	52·5
Kohat	1,500	170	...	170	...	79	79	... ...	... 6 10	11·4
Total ...	201,455	61,531	41,113	35,889	9,387	14,811	24,198	... 1 3	... 6 7	30·5

79. It will be seen that a larger number of witnesses were dieted during the year under report both by the Police and by Magistrates than in the previous year, and that the expenditure increased from Rs. 18,201 to Rs. 24,198. In the Ludhianah and Muzaffargarh districts 64 per cent of the total number of witnesses examined were dieted, at an average cost of about 8 annas for each witness in the Ludhiana district, and 6 annas in the Muzaffargarh district. In Peshawur only 47 witnesses, or 0·5 per cent of the witnesses examined, received any allowance, and they received an average of Rs. 1-12-0 each. In Bannu, too, the rates allowed both by the Police and Magistrates, and in Gujrat the rates allowed by Magistrates are far above the average rates of the Province. These great inequalities are, as has been often remarked in previous reports, not satisfactory, but, without further information, which it would be difficult to obtain, the Judges can form no opinion as to how far the variations are due to legitimate causes and how far to the idiosyncracies of individual officers. They can only ask the Deputy Commissioners of the districts in which the inequalities are most marked to bear the matter in mind in examining the files and registers of their subordinate courts, and to take notice of all cases in which diet money appears to have been wrongly paid or withheld, or in which improper rates have been allowed.

Average cost of witnesses.

80. The average cost of each witness dieted by the Police has fallen from 3¼ annas to 1¼ annas, the average cost incurred by Magistrates being 6 annas, 7 pie, or 1 pie more than last year. The difference between the average cost of witnesses dieted by the Police and by Magistrates, which was commented on in last year's report, is explained in several of the reports now under review. It would seem that, in most districts at all events, the Police only advance diet money in cases in which it is absolutely needed by the witness to enable him to journey to the Court, whereas Magistrates are guided by the rules laid down in Judicial Circular No. LV.

PART II.—APPELLATE JURISDICTION OF MAGISTRATES AND COURTS OF SESSION.

81. There has been a general increase in the number of appeals preferred to District and Divisional Courts during the year. The statistics of the last two years are compared in the annexed table :—

Grade of Court.		Number of original cases decided.	Number of appeals.	Per-centage of appeals to original cases decided.
Subordinate Magistrates	1876	38,749	2,263	5·8
	1877	40,149	2,337	5·8
Magistrates of Districts exercising ordinary jurisdiction and other Magistrates with full powers	1876	33,174	2,626	7·9
	1877	34,493	2,716	7·9

Increase commented on.

82. From the above it will be seen that in both District and Divisional Courts appeals have merely kept pace with the larger number of decisions passed by the Courts of the different grades, which again, as has been pointed out in para 60, corresponds to the general increase in criminal work which has characterized the year.

Appeals to District Courts.

83. Including the pending files of the previous year, there were 2,367 cases of appeal, involving 4,065 persons, for disposal by District Appellate Courts. Of these, 2,339 cases, affecting 4,017 persons, were disposed of during the year—84 per cent by Magistrates of Districts and 16 per cent by Judicial Assistants. The Judges are glad to observe that in most districts the bulk of the criminal appellate business is taken up by the Magistrate of the District himself, as they consider that the hearing of criminal appeals gives a most useful insight into the criminal administration of the district, which it is highly desirable that the chief officer of the district should possess.

84. The following table shows in detail the results of appeals to District Courts, and compares the general results of the year with those of the preceding year :—

Districts.		Appeals disposed of.		Per-centage of persons whose				
		Cases.	Persons.	Appeals were rejected.	Sentences were confirmed.	Sentences were modified.	Sentences were enhanced.	Sentences were reversed and quashed.
Delhi		102	162	11	38	12	...	39
Gurgáon		64	140	...	36	22	4	38
Karnál		27	50	2	54	18	...	26
Hissár		53	83	...	67	10	1	22
Rohták		111	213	5	40	32	10	13
Sirsa		31	34	3	47	15	3	32
Umbálla		145	250	67	2	5	2	24
Ludhiana		101	135	...	65	4	1	30
Simla		1	1	...	...	...	...	100
Jullundur		85	199	1	37	30	1	31
Hoshiárpúr		102	169	56	7	7	1	29
Kángra		74	100	2	32	19	8	39
Amritsar		123	269	16	52	18	2	12
Gurdáspur		89	152	9	55	13	3	20
Siálkót		98	180	...	52	25	...	23
Lahore		151	225	...	61	14	3	22
Gujranwála		79	134	29	38	13	1	19
Ferozepore		104	176	1	62	10	...	27
Ráwalpindi		150	294	10	59	15	...	16
Jhelum		114	241	6	39	29	1	25
Gujrát		99	161	1	69	13	1	16
Sháhpúr		36	55	...	73	...	...	27
Mooltan		69	106	37	19	9	4	31
Jhang		104	107	...	46	15	14	25
Montgomery		30	44	...	77	9	2	12
Muzaffargarh		23	31	61	...	16	...	23
Dera Ismail Khán		23	27	4	67	22	...	7
Dera Ghazi Khán		26	40	42	32	8	3	20
Bannu		40	55	24	29	16	...	31
Peshawár		47	86	29	35	6	3	27
Hazára		86	96	1	64	15	5	15
Kohát		2	3	...	33	67	...	...
Total	1877	2,339	4,017	94	44	16	2	24
	1876	2,244	3,771	11	50	14	2	23

Results compared.

85. The table shows that the mode of dealing with petitions of appeal varies in the different districts. In some districts it apparently is the practice to admit all appeals at once to a hearing under Section 279, Criminal Procedure Code; in others the more correct procedure is followed of rejecting, under Section 278, petitions in which the appellant is unable to make out any *primâ facie* grounds for interference. Grouping together appeals rejected and appeals dismissed, we find that in 58 per cent of the sentences appealed against the order of the lower Court was upheld, as compared with 61 per cent in the previous year.

The per-centage of reversals for the province is slightly higher than in the preceding year. Excluding Simla, where only one appeal was disposed of during the year, it is highest in the Delhi, Gurgaon and Kangra districts. The Tahsildars of Sunipat and Palwal are mainly responsible for the high per-centages in the Delhi and Gurgaon districts. In the Kulu sub-division of the Kangra district 14 orders of the Naib-Tahsildar, Ajudhia Parshad, were appealed to the Assistant Commissioner and all reversed.

In the case of 94 persons the sentence passed by the Lower Court was enhanced. This power was most freely exercised in the Rohtak and Jhang districts. A further enquiry was directed in 101 cases, or 4·3 per cent of the total number disposed of. In 1876 the proportion was 4·8 per cent.

Average duration.

86. The average duration of appeals in District Appellate Courts was the same as in the two previous years, *viz.*, seven days. The only districts in which the average was at all high were—

In Kohat 23 days
In Jullundur 13 days

There were no old appeals pending at the end of the year.

Appeals to Courts of Session.

87. The following table gives full particulars regarding the appellate work of Courts of Session :—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	DISPOSED OF																	
			PERSONS.							TOTAL.								
DIVISION.	For disposal, including pending from last year.		Appeals rejected on technical grounds.	Sentences confirmed.		Sentences modified.	Sentences enhanced.	Sentences reversed.	Proceedings quashed, Sec. 284 C. P. C.	After directing further enquiry Sec. 282 Criminal Pro. Code.		Without directing further enquiry.		Pending at the end of the year.		Average duration of appeals.	No. of appeals which at the close of the year had been pending more than one month.	Date of oldest case pending.
	Cases.	Persons.		Without calling for files.	After perusal of files.					Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.			
Delhi ...	238	297	4	...	186	17	2	68	1	9	10	214	268	15	19	15	3	4th Novr. '77
Hissár ...	219	332	36	5	187	39	5	51	...	4	4	210	319	5	9	8	...	18th Decr. '77
Umbálla ...	342	358	4	37	255	9	...	46	...	2	2	333	349	7	7	10	...	11th Do. '77
Jullundur,	126	138	...	...	78	27	3	25	...	1	1	120	132	5	5	21	...	3rd Do. '77
Amritsar ...	309	332	7	27	176	24	6	70	...	...	...	288	310	21	22	19	3	1st Octr. '77
Lahore ...	331	331	...	102	136	6	2	81	...	4	4	323	323	4	4	15	...	8th Decr. '77
Ráwalpindi,	348	490	27	239	170	17	18	17	...	4	15	341	471	3	4	11	...	24th Novr. '77
Mooltan ...	368	470	11	1	281	38	2	120	...	3	4	355	449	10	17	38	2	20th Novr. '77
Deraját ...	259	261	8	16	192	11	9	24	...	5	5	253	255	1	1	6	...	24th Decr. '77
Peshawar	264	345	23	57	152	49	10	48	...	16	16	242	323	6	6	14	1	15th Novr. '77
Total (1877	2,804	3,354	120	484	1,813	235	57	550	1	48	61	2,679	3,199	77	94	16	9	1st Octr '77
Total (1876	2,686	3,290	209	371	1,859	226	43	466	8	62	76	2,536	3,106	88	208	22	10	5th Sept. '76

Results compared.

88. Grouping the columns together, we find that 2,727 appeals, affecting 3,260 persons, were disposed of by Courts of Session during the year 1877, as compared with 2,598 appeals, affecting 3,182 persons, in the previous year.

The appeals in each year resulted thus :—

	1876.	1877.
Orders upheld	77 per cent.	74 per cent.
„ modified	7 „	7 „
„ enhanced	1 „	2 „
„ reversed or quashed ...	15 „	17 „

The per-centage of reversals has risen from 15 to 17. It was highest in the Mooltan and Delhi Courts. In the Rawalpindi Court the proportion was not quite 4 per cent.

Only 2 per cent of the appeals disposed of were remanded for further enquiry.

Pending file.

89. At the close of the year 77 appeals, or 3 per cent of the total number for disposal, remained undisposed of. Of these only 9 had been pending for more than one month. The oldest pending case was one dating from 1st October 1877 in the Court of the Sessions Judge of Amritsar. It was disposed of early in the present year.

Average duration.

90. The average duration of appeals in Sessions Courts ranged from 6 days in the Derajat Division to 38 days in the Mooltan Division, the average duration for the province being 16 days, as compared with 22 days in the previous year.

PART III.—PUNISHMENTS.

91. Imperial Return No. IV exhibits in full detail the punishments inflicted by the various classes of Criminal Courts during the year.

The following abstract statement compares the statistics of the year 1877 with those of the previous year :—

Class of Tribunals.	Year.	Total number of persons punished.	Persons sentenced to												Persons ordered to find or give		
			Death.	Transportation	Imprisonment.				Forfeiture of property.	Fine.		Whipping.					
					For life.	For a term.	Rigorous. With solitary confinement.	Rigorous. Without solitary confinement.	Simple.		With imprisonment.	Without imprisonment or transportation	In addition to other punishments.	In lieu of other punishments.	Security to keep the peace.	Recognizance to keep the peace.	Sureties for good behaviour.
Magistrates' Courts	1876	77,058	...	...	6	6,543	6,944	547	44	9,680	48,959	377	2,503	2,880	3,656	5,020
	1877	79,322	...	...	6	8,785	7,079	633	...	11,166	46,393	447	3,334	4,339	2,555	6,197
Sessions Courts ...	1876	488	97	88	16	105	132	5	17	142	11	...	3	19	4	8
	1877	684	86	118	35	198	118	10	9	170	24	9	8	35	22	30
Chief Court ...	1876	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1877	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1876	77,546	97	88	22	6,648	7,076	552	31	9,822	48,970	377	2,506	2,899	3,660	5,028
	1877	80,006	86	118	41	8,983	7,197	643	9	11,336	46,417	456	3,342	4,374	2,577	6,227

92. Including 13,178 persons who were called on to give guarantees for their peaceable or good behaviour, the total number of persons punished during the year was 80,006, as compared with 77,546 persons in the previous year.

Total number of persons punished.

93. The proportions in which the different punishments were awarded are noted in the subjoined table :—

Proportions in which different punishments were awarded.

Punishment.	1876. Number.	1876. Per-centage.	1877. Number.	1877. Per-centage.
Death	97	0·1	86	0·1
Transportation for life	88	0·1	118	0·1
Transportation for a term	22	0·0	41	0·0
Imprisoned and fined	9,822	12·9	11,336	14·4
Imprisoned and whipped	377	0·5	456	0·6
Imprisoned only	4,077	5·2	5,032	6·3
Fined only	48,970	63·1	46,417	58·0
Whipped only	2,506	3·2	3,342	4·2
Ordered to find security to keep the peace	2,899	3·7	4,374	5·5
Ordered to enter into recognizance to keep the peace ...	3,660	4·7	2,577	3·2
Ordered to find security for good behaviour	5,028	6·5	6,227	7·8
Total	77,546	...	80,006	...

94. The decrease in capital sentences and increase in sentences of transportation for life have been commented on elsewhere.

Capital sentences and sentences of transportation for life.

95. The increase in sentences of transportation for a term of years is due to the Government of India having relaxed the rule under which formerly only convicts who had not less than seven years to serve could be deported to the Andamans. This relaxation has led to a more extensive use of the provisions of Section 59 of the Indian Penal Code.

Transportation for a term of years.

96. Altogether, 16,823 persons were sentenced to imprisonment during the year, as compared with 14,276 persons in the previous year.

Imprisonment.

Of the persons so sentenced—

3,872, or 23 per cent, were sentenced for periods not exceeding 1 month ;

7,084, or 42 per cent, were sentenced for periods above 1 month and not exceeding 6 months ;

5,195, or 31 per cent, were sentenced for periods above 6 months and not exceeding 2 years ;

645, or 4 per cent, were sentenced for periods above 2 years and not exceeding 7 years;

27, or ·1 per cent, were sentenced for periods exceeding 7 years.

97. Of the total number of persons punished with imprisonment, 16,180 were rigorously imprisoned, and of these 55 per cent were also punished with solitary confinement. Last year the proportion of persons who were sentenced to pass a portion of their terms of imprisonment in solitary confinement was 48 per cent only, and it was still lower in the years previous to 1876. In many districts the law relating to solitary confinement seems to be now carefully and systematically worked, but in the districts* noted in the margin there is still room for improvement. In the Gurgaon district also the per-centage is low, but the Deputy Commissioner explains that there are no solitary cells attached to the local jail, where all short sentences are worked out, and that it is useless therefore to pass sentences of solitary confinement in such cases. This was reported to Government during the year.

Rigorous imprisonment and solitary confinement.

Simla.
Jullundur.
Hoshiarpur.
Amritsar.
Lahore.
Rawalpindi.
Gujrat.
Dera Ghazi Khan.
Bannu.
Kohat.

98. Sentences of simple imprisonment were passed on 643 persons, as against 552 persons in the preceding year.

Simple imprisonment.

99. Only 9 persons were sentenced to forfeiture of property, as compared with 31 persons in 1876. Last year 24 sentences of forfeiture of property were passed by the Peshawar Courts. During the year under report this punishment was only awarded in 3 cases.

Forfeiture of property.

100. Whipping was awarded in addition to other punishment in the case of 456 persons, and 3,342 persons were sentenced to whipping alone. This punishment was with great propriety largely resorted to in punishing petty thefts of grain during the scarcity in the Delhi, Gurgaon, Rohtak and Sialkot districts.

Whipping.

Of the total number of persons whipped, 31 per cent were sentenced to over 20 stripes, 45 per cent to between 10 and 20 stripes, and 24 per cent to 10 stripes and under.

101. Altogether, 57,753 persons, or 72 per cent of the total number of persons punished, were sentenced to pay fines, either in addition to, or in lieu of, other punishment. Of these—

Fine.

46,503, or 80·5 per cent, were sentenced to fines not exceeding Rs. 10 ;

10,030, or 17·4 per cent, were sentenced to fines of over Rs. 10 but not exceeding Rs. 50 ;

890, or 1·5 per cent, were sentenced to fines of over Rs. 50 but not exceeding Rs. 100;

330, or ·6 per cent, were sentenced to fines exceeding Rs. 100.

102. The total amount of fines imposed during the year was Rs. 5,80,006, of which Rs. 3,26,908, or 56 per cent, were realized. The proportion realized last year of the fines imposed during the year was 60 per cent. Rs. 83,936 were also realized during 1877 on account of fines imposed in previous years, as compared with Rs. 94,330 in 1876.

* Amounts imposed, and realized, and awarded in compensation.

Rs. 87,442, or 15 per cent of the total amount of fines imposed, were ordered to be paid by way of compensation, and, including sums paid on account of awards of previous years, Rs. 42,508 were actually paid in compensation.

103. The operations of each District and Sessions Court during the last two years are exhibited in the subjoined comparative statement. Realizations on account of fines imposed in previous years are excluded in column 7 :—

Operations of last two years compared.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
DIVISION.	DISTRICT.	Year.	Total number of persons fined.	Total amount of fines imposed.	Average amount of fine per head.	Per-centage of fine realized.	Per-centage of fine imposed, ordered to be paid in compensation.
Delhi.	Delhi	1876	2,172	16,250	7	63	24
		1877	1,597	16,370	9	41	24
	Gurgáon	1876	1,652	12,792	9	65	4
		1877	1,911	15,509	8	56	3
	Karnál	1876	1,264	10,113	8	59	13
		1877	1,625	11,015	11	52	19
	Sessions Court	1876	2	2,050	1,025	1	99
		1877	7	205	29	...	...
Hissár.	Hissár	1876	1,441	11,947	8	62	18
		1877	1,494	13,296	9	62	17
	Rohtak	1876	1,549	19,723	13	58	18
		1877	1,343	21,247	16	50	18
	Sirsa	1876	423	4,806	11	54	32
		1877	429	7,033	16	45	38
	Sessions Court	1876	2	36	17	71	...
		1877	25	1,195	48	1	...
Umbálla.	Umbálla	1876	3,685	23,297	8	86	14
		1877	2,752	31,796	11	52	7
	Ludhiána	1876	1,395	12,508	8	46	9
		1877	1,185	17,588	15	45	12
	Simla	1876	2,063	9,494	5	75	8
		1877	1,695	5,969	4	86	7
	Sessions Court	1876	1	1,000	1000	23	23
		1877	13	990	76	3	...
Jullundur	Jullundur	1876	2,485	11,651	5	65	12
		1877	2,897	12,509	4	74	13
	Hoshiarpur	1876	2,621	13,091	6	67	10
		1877	1,328	14,238	11	52	3
	Kángra	1876	3,199	13,924	4	74	19
		1877	2,918	12,597	6	82	12
	Sessions Court	1876	8	675	84	89	...
		1877	5	205	41	67	...
Amritsar.	Amritsar	1876	3,233	20,970	6	68	19
		1877	3,965	25,579	6	64	14
	Gurdaspur	1876	2,035	19,899	10	62	11
		1877	1,875	18,036	10	56	12
	Siálkot	1876	1,521	20,788	14	41	34
		1877	1,612	15,719	10	45	12
	Sessions Court	1876	15	1,170	90	...	...
		1877	16	1,100	69	9	...
Lahore.	Lahore	1876	3,185	31,272	10	48	11
		1877	3,372	25,050	7	50	14
	Gujranwála	1876	1,611	13,861	9	62	14
		1877	1,659	17,196	10	49	14
	Ferozepore	1876	1,719	14,896	8	53	12
		1877	2,041	16,598	6	67	12
	Sessions Court	1876	2	110	55	20	82
		1877	2	100	50	25	50
Rawalpindi.	Rawalpindi	1876	4,234	36,838	9	77	9
		1877	3,950	35,555	9	75	13
	Jhelum	1876	2,382	22,052	8	69	5
		1877	1,664	19,493	12	66	15
	Gujrát	1876	1,091	15,067	14	55	14
		1877	1,187	17,534	15	62	17
	Shahpur	1876	1,254	16,066	12	64	13
		1877	1,253	20,867	16	56	11
	Sessions Court	1876	24	1,420	59	7	13
		1877	13	1,820	140	5	...

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Division.	District.	Year.	Total number of persons fined.	Total amount of fines imposed.	Average amount of fine per head.	Per-centage of fine realized.	Per-centage of fine imposed, ordered to be paid in compensation.
Multán.	Mooltán	1876	2,167	19,158	9	68	8
		1877	2,909	21,261	7	61	9
	Jhang	1876	887	7,682	9	54	19
		1877	794	8,275	10	52	24
	Montgomery	1876	1,096	17,745	16	35	13
		1877	1,075	14,427	13	29	5
	Muzaffargarh	1876	929	13,647	15	64	18
		1877	788	9,964	13	68	16
	Sessions Court	1876	9	1,200	133	9	...
		1877	26	3,175	122	1	3
Derajat.	Dera Ismail Khán	1876	926	12,672	14	75	15
		1877	860	11,290	13	77	21
	Dera Ghazi Khán	1876	1,086	17,243	16	49	16
		1877	1,221	21,822	18	47	19
	Bannú	1876	1,286	15,531	12	96	37
		1877	1,337	14,774	11	91	20
	Sessions Court	1876	22	2,650	120	41	9
		1877	11	1,050	95	15	...
Peshawar.	Peshawar	1876	2,662	30,210	11	43	36
		1877	2,788	46,308	17	38	28
	Hazára	1876	1,367	16,405	12	69	15
		1877	1,532	13,094	9	61	14
	Kohát	1876	656	12,519	14	78	39
		1877	609	11,504	19	81	36
	Sessions Court	1876	70	3,295	47	12	33
		1877	76	4,262	56	17	16
	Total ... Districts	1876	58,639	5,33,203	9	61	17
		1877	57,559	5,65,904	10	58	15
	Total ... Sessions Courts	1876	153	14,605	95	18	5
		1877	194	14,102	73	9	6

104. Thus, it will be seen that in District Courts the average incidence of fine has risen from Rs. 9 to Rs. 10, and the per-centage of realizations has fallen from 61 to 58. The falling off in realizations may be to some extent due to the year having been a hard one for the poorer classes. In dealing with the per-centage of realizations too it should, as several of the local reports point out, be borne in mind that, in cases in which fine is added to a long term of imprisonment as an additional punishment, the fine is seldom voluntarily paid until the substantive term of imprisonment is about to expire, and that the per-centage of fines recovered during the year in which they are imposed does not therefore even approximately represent the per-centage eventually realized. Thus, the Deputy Commissioner of Dera Ismail Khan shows that, when the accounts of the fines imposed in 1871 were closed at the end of 1877, it was found that 85 per cent of the aggregate amount imposed had been realized during the period allowed for realization, though only 71 per cent was realized during the year 1871. In the Delhi district, where the realizations of 1877 are below the average, the Deputy Commissioner during a tour in camp made a careful enquiry into the system followed by the different Tahsildars for the recovery of fines, and found in each case that efforts were systematically made to realize fines where possible.

Results commented on.

105. The average incidence of fine is highest in the Kohat (Rs. 19), Dera Ghazi Khan (Rs. 18), and Peshawur (Rs. 17) districts, and lowest in the Simla and Jullundur districts.

Incidence of fines in certain districts.

106. During the year under report 194 persons were fined Rs. 14,102 by Courts of Session, as against 153 persons who were fined Rs. 14,605 in the previous year. Only 9 per cent of the fines imposed during 1877 by Courts of Session were realized during the year.

Fines imposed by Courts of Session.

Award of compensation.

107. The last column of the statement shows for each District and Sessions Court what proportions of the fines imposed during the years 1876 and 1877 were ordered to be paid in compensation. It will be seen that in District Courts the proportion for 1877 ranges from 3 per cent in Gurgaon to 58 per cent in Sirsa, and is 15 per cent for the province. In Sessions Courts no compensation was awarded during 1877 by the Sessions Judges of Delhi, Umballa, Jullundur, Amritsar, Rawalpindi and the Derajat. The Sessions Judge of Lahore fined two persons Rs. 100 and awarded half in compensation. Out of fines aggregating Rs. 4,262 the Sessions Judge of Peshawur awarded 16 per cent in compensation.

PART IV.—PREVENTIVE JURISDICTION.

Preventive jurisdiction.

108. The following Statement shows the use made by Magistrates of their preventive jurisdiction under Chapters XXXVII to XLI of the Code of Criminal Procedure during the year 1877. The figures of the previous year are added for comparison :—

NATURE OF JURISDICTION.		Total cases.	Persons against whom proceedings were concluded.	Persons with respect to whom action was taken.
Recognizance or Security to keep the peace—Chapter XXXVII Criml. Procedure Code	1876 ...	2,147	8,798	6,559
	1877 ...	2,368	8,909	6,994
Security for good behaviour—Chapter XXXVIII Criminal Procedure Code	1876 ...	4,230	6,093	5,023
	1877 ...	4,630	7,503	6,197
Local nuisances—Chapter XXXIX Criminal Procedure Code ...	1876 ...	328	664	6
	1877 ...	111	656	11
Disputes concerning land and water—Chapter XL Criminal Procedure Code	1876 ...	96	274	15
	1877 ...	84	275	19
Maintenance—Chapter XLI Criminal Procedure Code	1876 ...	2,111	2,189	413
	1877 ...	2,583	2,591	507

Security to keep the peace.

109. From the above it will be seen that 6,894 persons were called on to furnish recognizance or security to keep the peace, as compared with 6,559 in the previous year. Of the total number so called on, 2,761, or 40 per cent, were residents of the Peshawar district, and 1,037, or 15 per cent, were residents of the Bannu district. Other districts in which a large number of persons was called on to furnish guarantees for peaceable behaviour were :—

Hazara	393	persons.
Dera Ismail Khan	342	„
Rawalpindi	305	„

Out of the 6,894 persons from whom security to keep the peace was demanded, 94 per cent furnished the required security at once, and 6 per cent were imprisoned in default. The proportion of persons imprisoned in default is rather higher than in the previous year, when only 2·5 per cent of the persons required to furnish security were imprisoned. It was highest in the Hoshiarpur district, where 28 out of 32 persons called on to furnish security to keep the peace were imprisoned in default, and in the Shahpur district, where 95 out of a total number of 261 persons were imprisoned. In both cases the Deputy Commissioners note that the detentions were for short periods.

Security for good behaviour.

110. There has been also an increase of 23 per cent in the number of persons called on to furnish security for good behaviour. Security of this description was most freely demanded in the following districts :—

Lahore	1,448	persons.
Gujranwala	971	„
Bannu	627	„
Peshawur	374	„

Of the total number of persons from whom security for good behaviour was demanded, 1,444, or 23 per cent, were imprisoned in default. The proportion in 1876 was 28 per cent. It is highest this year in the following districts:—

District.	*No. of persons called on to furnish security.*	*Per-centage imprisoned in default.*
Sialkot	108	97
Kangra	27	85
Gurdaspur	91	85
Dera Ismail Khan	134	79
Gurgaon	27	78
Rawalpindi	110	75

The proportion of persons imprisoned seems very high in the Sialkot, Gurdaspur, Dera Ismail Khan, and Rawalpindi districts, and the cause is not explained in the reports accompanying the returns, nor is information given regarding the average periods for which the persons were detained in custody. The Judges, however, have recently called for detailed reports which will show how the law relating to security for good behaviour has worked in each district of the province during the past three years, and they will wait till these reports are received before they comment further on the subject. In the Lahore district, out of the 1,448 persons who were called on to furnish security for good behaviour, only 12 were imprisoned in default.

Cases under Chapters XXXIX and XL Criminal Procedure Code.

111. It was observed in last year's report that the returns furnished by many districts regarding persons dealt with under Chapters XXXIX and XL of the Criminal Procedure Code were apparently incorrect. Full instructions as to the way in which these returns should be prepared were issued to reporting officers on the present occasion, and the Judges think that the figures of 1877 may be accepted as substantially correct. The results shown are not satisfactory. It appears that out of 656 persons prosecuted under Chapter XXXIX, all but 11 were put to the annoyance of a criminal enquiry on insufficient grounds, while, in cases under Chapter XL, out of the 275 persons who were summoned before a Magistrate, informations were correctly laid in the case of 19 persons only.

Maintenance.

112. Applications for maintenance increased from 2,189 in 1876 to 2,491 in the year under report, an increase of 19 per cent. Separate maintenance was awarded in 507 cases only, but no doubt many of the remaining applications resulted in the case being amicably arranged in or out of Court. Nine persons were imprisoned for failing to comply with orders awarding maintenance.

Award of compensation in cases of frivolous or vexatious complaints.

113. Another class of cases under the Code of Criminal Procedure which may be appropriately noticed here relates to the award of compensation, under Section 200, in cases of frivolous or vexatious complaints.

The following table shows the number of persons fined and the amount of compensation awarded during the past three years:—

Year.	Persons.	Total amount of fine imposed.
1875	680	Rs. 3,529
1876	737	„ 3,539
1877	715	„ 3,112

In noticing the small number of persons fined under Section 209, as compared with the very large number of petty complaints dismissed, several officers lay stress on the unreliability of the evidence usually given in the class of cases in which compensation is awardable, and remark that it is often impossible to affirm positively that there was no just ground for complaint, even in cases in which the accused person is acquitted. This difficulty the Judges can fully appreciate, and they would be quite satisfied could they feel sure that, whenever a complaint is dismissed in a case in which compensation can be awarded, the question of awarding compensation is considered by the Court. But this is just what they fear is not always done at present, and is a point to which they would request supervising authorities to pay special attention during the current year.

PART V.—CHIEF COURT JURISDICTION.

Reference side.

114. During the year the cases of 89 persons sentenced to death by Courts of Session came before the Chief Court for confirmation; 74 of these sentences were confirmed, 9 were modified, and 6 were annulled.

Each case lasted on the average 26 days. At the close of the year 6 references, involving 13 persons, were pending.

Appellate side.

115. The following statement shows the number of criminal appeals instituted in the Chief Court during the year. The totals of the previous year are added for comparison.

Division.		Appeals against the orders of Commissioners.	Appeals against the orders of Deputy Commissioners.	Total.
Delhi		19	12	31
Hissar		9	25	34
Umballa		29	16	45
Jullundur		25	7	32
Umritsar		22	60	82
Lahore		22	29	51
Rawalpindi		39	29	68
Mooltan		12	42	54
Derajat		25	36	61
Peshawar		63	11	74
Total	1877	265	267	532
	1876	276	302	578

Thus, 49·8 of the appeals instituted were against the orders of Courts of Session, and 50·2 per cent against sentences passed by Deputy Commissioners in the exercise of their enhanced powers under Section 36 of Act X of 1872. The proportions were nearly the same in 1876.

Disposal of appeals.

116. Including cases pending from the previous year, there were for disposal during the year under report 575 petitions of appeal, affecting 688 persons.

Of these, 518 cases, affecting 600 persons, were disposed of as follows:—

Detail of disposal.	*No. of persons disposed of.*	*Proportion borne to total number disposed of.*
Appeals rejected	215	36
Sentences confirmed	241	40
Do. modified	51	9
Do. enhanced	8	1
Do. reversed	85	14

Leaving 57 cases, in which 88 persons were concerned, pending at the close of the year.

Results compared with those of the previous year.

117. Nearly the same proportion of orders was upheld during 1877 as in the previous year, but the proportions in which appeals were rejected by a single Judge and in which the sentence of the lower Court was referred to a Bench and then confirmed have altered considerably. In 1876 only 46 appeals were rejected, and 465 sentences were confirmed by a Bench, while in the year under report 215 appeals were rejected and 241 sentences were confirmed. The chief reason for this difference is that the present practice of the Court is only to admit to a Bench cases in which there seem *primâ facie* grounds for interference, whereas formerly, in all cases in which it was considered desirable to send for the files, notice was usually given to the Respondent, and the appeal placed at once before a Bench. The advantage of the present system is that in a large majority of cases a perusal of the files shows that there are no sufficient grounds for interfering with the order of the lower Court, and the appeal is thus disposed of without the intervention of a second Judge.

The per-centage of reversals has fallen from 15 to 14. The only Division in which it is at all high is Amritsar, where 21 per cent of the orders appealed were reversed. Out of the 518 appeals which were disposed of during the year, 509 were disposed of without further enquiry.

Average duration of appeals.

118. The average duration of criminal appeals in the Chief Court has risen from 29 to 39 days, the longer duration being to a great extent due to the change of system noted in the last paragraph.

Oldest pending appeal.

119. The oldest appeal pending at the close of the year was an appeal from the Deputy Commissioner of Jhelum, and was instituted on May 29th, 1877. The disposal of the case was delayed by it being necessary for the Court to take further evidence before proceeding to judgment, and by other circumstances which need not be particularized. It was finally disposed of in January 1878.

Revision side.

120. The cases of 1,446 persons came before the Chief Court during the year under the provisions of Sections 294, 296 and 297 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and were disposed of as follows:—

The Court—

Rejected the applications of	806	persons
Confirmed the sentences of	245	„
Modified the sentences of	62	„
Reversed the sentences of	249	„
Enhanced the sentences of	18	„
Quashed the proceedings in the case of	66	„

The average duration of each case was 24 days, as compared with 26 days in the previous year. At the close of the year 42 cases, affecting 77 persons, were pending.

Miscellaneous cases.

121. In addition to the above, the Chief Court disposed of 12 miscellaneous criminal cases, and inspected, and, where necessary, commented on the files of 73 cases in which the orders passed seemed open to criticism.

Original jurisdiction.

122. Only one trial was held during the year by the Chief Court in the exercise of its original criminal jurisdiction. The accused was charged under Secs. 403 and 409 of the Indian Penal Code and was acquitted.

PART VI.—PROCEDURE.

123. A very few remarks will suffice on the subject of procedure.

Preliminary examination of complainant.

124. Nearly all officers report that the preliminary examinations of complainants are now more thorough and careful than they used to be in former years, but it cannot be said that so far any practical results are apparent. As has been pointed out in the previous chapters of this report, the proportion of unsuccessful prosecutions is as high now as ever it was in those classes of cases in which it might be expected that a really efficient system of preliminary examination would make its effects most manifest.

Recording of evidence and of confessions and examinations of accused.

125. Evidence is, the Judges believe, generally recorded in accordance with the prescribed rules of procedure. The provisions of Sections 122 and 346 of the Code are, however, not at present so well observed. The Commissioner of Delhi states in his report that he has noticed that the formalities which are essential in recording examinations and confessions of accused persons are often neglected, and the experience of the Chief Court points in the same direction. A circular has lately been issued to Criminal Courts on the subject.

Proof of previous convictions.

126. Another point of criminal procedure to which the Court has found it necessary to draw attention is the procedure prescribed for proving previous convictions. The Judges found that the requirements of the Code were not always complied with. A circular was accordingly issued on the subject in August last.

Rules for payment of expenses of jurors and assessors and giving notice to prisoners in jail of dates fixed for preliminary hearing of appeals.

127. Revised rules were also issued during the year, on the subject of the payment of expenses to jurors and assessors summoned to attend at criminal trials, and in regard to the issue of notice to prisoners in jail of the dates fixed for the preliminary hearing of their appeals under Section 278 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

Habitual offenders.

128. The treatment of habitual offenders continues to be carefully watched. Statements are submitted each month to Commissioners of Divisions and the Chief Court, in which the month's convictions of persons who have

been one or more times previously convicted are entered. These statements are carefully scrutinized, and attention is drawn to any cases in which the sentences seem inadequate, and, if necessary, the error is corrected by the Chief Court under its revisional powers.

The returns show that 1,114 persons were convicted during the year who had been once previously convicted under Chapter XII or Chapter XVII of the Indian Penal Code, as compared with 909 persons in the preceding year, and that convictions of persons who had been more than once previously convicted increased from 325 to 404. These increases, however, can hardly be wondered at in a year in which the temptation to commit crime was in many districts materially increased by scarcity and the pressure of high prices.

Reference by Subordinate Magistrates under Section 46 Criminal Procedure Code.

129. During the year under report, 392 cases were referred by 2nd and 3rd Class Magistrates, under Section 46 of the Criminal Procedure Code, for enhanced punishment, as compared with 404 cases in the previous year. If the decrease may be taken to indicate that fewer cases calling for heavy punishments were taken up by Magistrates with subordinate powers, the decrease is satisfactory, but from the very few cases referred in certain districts,—notably those specified in the margin, in which a considerable proportion of the criminal work of the year was disposed of by Tahsildars—there seems some ground for fearing that in such districts this power was not exercised as freely as it should have been. Deputy Commissioners will do well to bear the point in mind during the present year.

Kangra.
Gujrat.
Hoshiarpur.
Rawalpindi.
Hissar.
Jhelum.

Criminal processes and expenses of complainants.

130. Altogether, 67,717 criminal processes were served by the Sheriff's establishment during the year 1877, as compared with 62,803 in the previous year. The Commissioner of Rawalpindi notices in his report that the provisions of Section 31 of the Court Fees' Act, which require the repayment by the person, or persons, convicted of the court fees paid by the complainant in prosecuting his charge, are not as a rule observed in his division. The Judges are inclined to think that this remark would apply to most divisions of the province, and they commend the point to supervising officers as one worthy of attention.

Supervision of Subordinate Courts.

131. The supervision exercised by Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners over their subordinate Courts has been generally efficient.

The Commissioners of Hissar and Mooltan have continued their practice of sending for a certain number of the files of each Subordinate Court every month, and the Judges can testify to the care and thoroughness with which such files are examined and criticised.

To all Commissioners and most Deputy Commissioners the acknowledgments of the Court are due for the care which they have bestowed on the periodical statements which have passed through their hands, which has materially lessened the labours of the Judges in subsequently dealing with them.

Colonel Graham, Commissioner of Mooltan.
Colonel Davies, Commissioner of Delhi.
Mr. Perkins, Commissioner of Amritsar.
Major Gurdon, while Deputy Commissioner of Ludhiana.
Mr. Coldstream, Deputy Commissioner of Hoshiarpur.
Mr. T. W. Smyth, Deputy Commissioner of Delhi.
Major Beadon, Deputy Commissioner of Jullundur.
Major Harcourt, Deputy Commissioner of Jhang.
Mr. Bulman, Officiating Deputy Commissioner of Gujranwala.
Mr. Fryer, Officiating Deputy Commissioner of Dera Ghazi Khan.
Major Macaulay, Officiating Deputy Commissioner of Dera Ismail Khan.
Captain Massy, whenOffg. as Deputy Commissioner of Rawalpindi.

Useful reports were also received during the course of the year, from the officers noted in the margin, of the results of their inspections of their subordinate Courts.

132. In the early part of the year the Ferozepore Courts were inspected by Mr. Justice Boulnois. Since then the whole time of the Judges has been occupied with the judicial business of their own Court, and, to their regret, they have been unable to attempt any inspections of the Courts subordinate to them.

I have, &c.,

G. W. RIVAZ,

Registrar, Chief Court.

IMPERIAL RETURNS.

IMPERIAL RETURN.

No. 1.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE VARIOUS JUDICIAL TRIBUNALS, ORIGINAL AND APPELLATE, EXISTING IN THE SEVERAL DISTRICTS OF THE PUNJAB ON THE LAST DAY OF THE YEAR 1877.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Class of tribunals, distinguishing those which exercise powers in one department, from those exercising powers in two or three departments, and those consisting of paid from unpaid Judges.	No. of Judicial Divisions.	Average area of each district in square miles.	Average population of each Division.	Number of tribunals.	Constitution of tribunals, stating number of Judges in each, and jury or assessors if any.	Judicial powers of each tribunal, original and appellate.	Prescribed qualifications of Judges previous to appointment.	TOTAL NUMBER OF JUDGES. *European.* Covenanted.	Commissioned Military Officers.	Uncovenanted.	Native.	AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY OF EACH PAID JUDGE. European.	Native.	Total cost of tribunals.	Net receipts from stamps.	Executive or other functions exercised by the same officers.	Average number of days in the year devoted to Judicial work.	Average number of Advocates attached to each tribunal.	NUMBER OF CASES DECIDED DURING THE YEAR. Criminal.	Civil.	Revenue.	Appeal.
Munsiffs, exercising Civil powers only ... Paid	Cantonment and District Small Cause Courts, and 74 Munsiffs' Courts.	10,183 square miles.	to last Census, taken in 1868.	74	1	Civil powers up to Rs. 300.	...	...	...	...	72					No executive functions.			3	117,325	602	...
Local and Subordinate Magistrates of the 3rd Class exercising Criminal powers only ... Paid				5	1	Powers of a Magistrate of the 3rd class.	...	1	1	2	1					Superintendents of Jails, Canal, Customs and Forest Department officers.			234	409	1,123	...
Unpaid				37	1		...	...	7	16	14					Honorary Magistrates.			861	...	...	...
Local and Subordinate Magistrates of the 3rd Class exercising Civil and Criminal powers Paid				64	1	Powers of a Magistrate of the 3rd class and Civil powers up to Rs. 50.	...	4	...	...	60					Tahsildars, Naib-Tahsildars, Assistant Commissioners and Extra Assistant Commissioners.			6,709	17,9[illegible]	9,977	...
Unpaid				12	1		...	...	...	...	12					Honorary Magistrates.			422	3,098	43	...
Local and Subordinate Magistrates of the 2nd Class exercising Criminal powers only ... Paid				4	1	Powers of a Magistrate of the 2nd class.	...	...	...	...	4					Canal, Customs and Forest Department Officers.			47	288	1	...
Unpaid				15	1		...	...	1	2	12					Honorary Magistrates.			489	406	155	...
Local and Subordinate Magistrates of the 2nd Class exercising Civil and Criminal powers Paid				113	1	Powers of a Magistrate of the 2nd class and Civil powers up to Rs. 300, or in the case of Assistant Commrs., Extra Asst. Commrs. and Honorary Judges, up to Rs. 500.	...	3	3	...	107	Rs. 11,979.	Rs. 2,878.	Rs. 28,98,519.	Rs. 11,33,839.	Asst. Commrs. Extra Asst. Commrs. Judicial Assts. and Extra Judicial Assistants.	gazetted holidays excepted.	Pleaders, and 49 Mukhtars are practising in the Province.	20,430	33,715	104,221	...
Unpaid				22	1		...	...	...	...	22					Honorary Magistrates.			1,638	4,302	52	...
Small Cause Courts, confined to their proper functions ...				3	1	Powers under Act XI of 1865.	...	...	...	3	...					... ...			2	10,364	...	...
Small Cause Courts exercising also Criminal powers ...				10	1	Powers under Act XXII of 1864, Act XI of 1865 and Magisterial powers under the Code of Criminal Procedure.	...	1	8	1	...					... ...			2,920	8,835	...	542

Municipal Benches (Unpaid)	10 Divisions, containing 32 districts, which are sub-divided into 125 Tahsils, and include 12	1,761,153, according	12	*6	Magisterial powers.	...	...	...	...	85					City Magistrates.	The entire year, Sundays and	14 Barristers, 29 Chief Court and 69 Subordinate Court	8,302	1,386	...	...
Magistrates of 1st Class exercising Criminal powers only (do.)			14	1	Powers of a Magistrate of the 1st class.	...	4	4	...	6					Honorary Magistrates.			907	2,884	191	...
Magistrates of 1st class exercising Civil and Criminal powers, other than Magistrates of Districts ... — Paid			131	1	Powers of a Magistrate of the 1st class, and Civil powers up to Rs. 10,000. Judicial Assistants and Extra Judicial Assistants have power to hear original civil suits of any value, and also to hear Criminal appeals from 2nd and 3rd class Magistrates and Civil appeals from Tahsildars and Naib Tahsildars and Assistant Commissioners and Extra Assistant Comrs. with special and ordinary powers.	...	50	32	15	66					Asst. Commrs., Extra Asst. Commrs. Judicial Assts. and Extra Judicial Assistants.			28,907	42,215	77,503	6,720
Magistrates of 1st class exercising Civil and Criminal powers, other than Magistrates of Districts ... — Unpaid			2	1		...	...	...	...	2					Honorary Magistrates.			178	601	12	...
Magistrates of Districts exercising also Civil powers ...			32	1	Powers of a Magistrate of the 1st class and power to hear Criminal appeals from Magistrates of the 2nd and 3rd class, and on the Civil side power to hear original suits of any value, and appeals from Tahsildars and Naib Tahsildars and Asst. Comrs. and Extra Asst. Comrs. with special and ordinary powers. 30 of these officers also exercise the special powers of Sec. 36 Criminal Procedure Code.	...	10	17	1	2					Deputy Commissioners.			3,789	176	2,202	3,942
Sessions Courts exercising also Civil powers ...			15	1, aided by 3 Assessors.	Powers of a Sessions Judge On the Civil side these officers have no Ordinary Original Civil jurisdiction; they hear appeals from Asst. Comrs. and Extra Asst. Comrs. with full powers and Deputy Commissioners.	...	7	8	...	...					Commissioners and Superintendents of Revenue ...			389	...	52	8,994
Chief Court ...			1	3 aided by a Jury of 9 men in Original Criminal Trials.	Powers described in Chapter III of the Punjab Courts Act 1877.	...	2	...	...	1					No Executive functions.			1	11	...	2,434
Total ...			566				82	81	40	466	...	...	...	...		...	...	76,228	243,952	196,134	22,632

* Average number.

IMPERIAL RETURN. NO. 2.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCES REPORTED, AND OF PERSONS TRIED, COMMITTED AND ACQUITTED FOR EACH OFFENCE IN THE PUNJAB DURING THE YEAR 1877.

Number.	Nomenclature of Offences.	Number of Section of Indian Penal Code or other Penal Law applicable.	Number of offences reported during the year.	Number of persons under trial during the year.	Number of persons acquitted and discharged.	Number of persons convicted and committed.	Died, escaped, or transferred.	Remaining under trial at the end of the year.
	I.—OFFENCES PUNISHABLE UNDER THE INDIAN PENAL CODE.							
	A.—Non-bailable.							
1	Giving false evidence ...	194 to 196	9	11	1	6	...	4
2	Fabricating false evidence ...	"	4	5	4	1	...	...
3	Resistance to lawful apprehension, and rescue ...	225	1	5	...	5	...	...
4	Unlawful return from transportation ...	226	1	1	1	...	...	...
5	Violation of condition of remission of punishment ...	227	1	1	...	1	...	...
6	Counterfeiting coin ...	231 to 236	10	11	5	6	...	...
7	Passing or possessing bad or altered coin ...	239 to 243 & 250 to 254	127	136	59	76	...	1
8	Offences connected with the mint ...	244, 245	1	...	....	...	...	...
9	Diminishing or altering coin ...	246 to 249	4	2	1	1	...	...
10	Keeping a lottery office ...	294 A	1	...	...	...	...	...
11	Murder by Thugs ...	302, 303, 396	3	9	...	9	...	...
12	Murder by Dacoits ...	"	12	9	...	9	...	...
13	Murder by Robbers ...	"	19	41	14	19	1	7
14	Murder from other motives ...	"	25	20	4	15	...	1
15	Other murders from motives connected with women ...	"	112	207	58	136	3	10
16	Other murders from other motives ...	"	153	209	49	142	2	16
17	Attempt to murder ...	307	58	72	30	38	...	4
18	Culpable homicide ...	304	143	261	32	224	1	4
19	Causing miscarriage ...	313 to 316	3	5	5	...	...	...
20	Grievous hurt by dangerous weapons ...	326	49	71	25	41	1	4
21	Causing hurt or grievous hurt to extort property or confession or to constrain a person ...	327, 329, 331, and 333	9	8	5	3	...	...
22	Administering stupifying drugs ...	328	52	40	21	19	...	...
23	Assault in attempting theft from person ...	356	17	12	3	8	...	1
24	Kidnapping or abduction ...	363 to 365, 367 to 369	186	270	139	122	9	...
25	Abducting a woman to compel marriage, or for defilement ...	366	54	173	132	25	...	16
26	Selling, letting, or unlawfully obtaining a woman for purposes of prostitution ...	372, 373	22	37	24	11	...	2
27	Rape ...	376	135	102	61	40	...	1
28	Unnatural offences ...	377	109	99	41	56	...	2
29	Theft of cattle ...	379 to 381	3,235	2,735	650	2,021	17	47
30	Theft, ordinary ...	"	10,254	9,634	2,220	7,273	26	115
31	Theft after preparation for causing death, or hurt, or restraint of cattle ...	382	4	6	1	5	...	...

No. 2.—*Continued.*

Number.	Nomenclature of Offences.	Number of Section of Indian Penal Code or other Penal Law applicable.	Number of offences reported during the year.	Number of persons under trial during the year.	Number of persons acquitted and discharged.	Number of persons convicted and committed.	Died, escaped, or transferred.	Remaining under trial at the end of the year.
	A.—Non-Bailable.—*Concluded.*							
32	Theft after preparation for causing death or hurt, or restraint ordinary ...	382	16	13	9	4	...	...
33	Robbery in a dwelling house ...	392, 393	43	78	47	26	...	5
34	Robbery on the highway ...	"	104	123	21	102	...	...
35	Robbery elsewhere ...	"	79	56	32	24	...	...
36	Robbery with hurt or deadly weapon, by poison or stupifying drugs ...	394, 397, 398	36	42	10	29	2	1
37	Robbery with hurt or deadly weapon, by other means ...	"	22	24	4	13	...	7
38	Dacoity ...	395, 398	55	150	24	125	...	1
39	Dacoity with grievous hurt ...	397	8	20	2	18	...	...
40	Preparation or assembly for dacoity ...	399, 402	1	5	..	5	...	...
41	Belonging to a gang of dacoits ...	400	1	5	...	5	...	...
42	Belonging to a gang of thieves ...	401	4	10	10	...	...	...
43	Criminal breach of trust ...	406 to 409	479	542	248	274	3	17
44	Dishonestly receiving stolen property ...	411 to 414	2,859	4,016	1,336	2,563	68	49
45	Serious mischief by fire ...	436, 438	86	40	29	7	...	4
46	Mischief after preparation made for causing death or hurt ...	440	3	4	3	1	...	...
47	House-trespass, in order to the committing of theft ...	451	95	80	19	59	...	2
48	" " " " an offence punishable with death or transportation for life ...	449, 450	1	...	...	...	...	...
49	House-trespass having made preparation for causing hurt ...	452	25	16	12	4	...	...
50	Lurking house-trespass or house-breaking ...	453, 456	3,158	575	147	422	...	6
51	Lurking house-trespass or house-breaking in order to the committing of theft ...	454, 457	8,421	4,395	1,213	3,080	12	90
52	Lurking house-trespass or house-breaking in order to the committing of an offence other than theft ...	"	772	143	36	106	...	...
53	Lurking house-trespass or house-breaking, having made preparation for causing hurt ...	455, 458	64	55	14	32	...	9
54	Lurking house-trespass or house-breaking with attempt to cause death or grievous hurt ...	459, 460	9	7	3	4	...	...
55	Forgery or fraudulently using or possessing forged document ...	466 to 468, 472 to 477	40	89	60	27	...	2
56	Fraudulent and unlawful marriages ...	493, 495, 496	14	23	13	9	...	1
57	Circulating false rumours to disturb the public peace ...	505	4	4	3	1	...	...
	B.—Bailable.							
58	Concealing a design to commit a bailable offence ...	119, 120	1	1	1	...	...	...
59	Abetment of desertion ...	135 to 137	1	1	...	1	...	...
60	Being a member of, or joining an unlawful assembly ...	143 to 145, 151, 158	24	186	57	120	...	9
61	Rioting ...	147 to 149, 152, 153	508	4,216	1,063	3,041	2	110
62	Omission to prevent or give information of a riot ...	154 to 156	2	3	2	1	...	...
63	Affray ...	160	259	1,376	314	1,058	...	4

No. 2.—*Continued.*

Number.	Nomenclature of Offences.	Number of Section of Indian Penal Code or other Penal Law applicable.	Number of offences reported during the year.	Number of persons under trial during the year.	Number of persons acquitted and discharged	Number of persons convicted and committed.	Died, escaped, or transferred	Remaining under trial at the end of the year.
	BAILABLE.—*Continued.*							
64	Bribery ...	161 to 165	161	207	149	45	1	12
65	Public servant disobeying a lawful direction with intent to cause injury ...	166	14	23	14	9	...	...
66	Public servant framing an incorrect document with intent to cause injury ...	167	9	12	3	9	...	...
67	Public servant unlawfully trading or buying property...	168, 169	5	5	3	2	...	...
68	Personating a public servant ...	170, 171	25	29	6	23	...	...
69	Evading, disobeying or preventing service of summons,	172 to 174	123	252	62	190	...	...
70	Omitting to produce a document ...	175	3	3	1	2	...	...
71	Omitting to give information ...	176	52	114	25	89	...	...
72	Giving false information ...	177, 182	410	545	196	342	1	6
73	Refusing oath, answer or signature when duly required,	178 to 180	10	11	1	10	...	...
74	Making false statement on oath ...	181	9	20	6	14	..	...
75	Resistance to the lawful taking or selling of property ...	183, 184	224	446	178	265	...	8
76	Illegally bidding at sale ...	185	1	1	1	...	...	...
77	Obstructing or omitting to assist a public servant ...	186, 187	246	487	204	271	1	11
78	Disobedience to lawful order ...	188	209	522	217	300	...	5
79	Threatening a public servant with injury ...	189	4	9	5	4	...	...
80	Threatening with injury ...	190	4	9	2	1	...	6
81	Giving or using false evidence (simple) ...	193, 196	268	472	212	247	4	9
82	Fabricating false evidence, or using fabricated evidence (simple) ...	193, 196	31	60	40	16	...	4
83	Signing or using a false certificate ...	197, 198	3	6	3	3	...	...
84	Making or using a false declaration ...	199, 200	10	12	9	3	...	...
85	Screening an offender by causing disappearance of evidence, &c. ...	201	24	54	20	34	...	...
86	Omitting to give information of an offence ...	202	32	70	18	51	1	...
87	Giving false information respecting an offence ...	203	3	8	3	5	...	...
88	Secreting or destroying documentary evidence ...	204	10	13	13	...	...	...
89	False personation in judicial proceedings ...	205	22	29	7	22	...	...
90	Fraudulently claiming or removing property to prevent legal seizure ...	206, 207	26	51	32	15	...	7
91	Fraudulently suffering a decree ...	208	3	2	2	...	...	...
92	False claim ...	209	22	29	16	10	1	2
93	Fraudulently obtaining or executing a decree.	210	16	17	8	7	...	2
94	False charge of an offence ...	211	273	412	239	154	2	17
95	Harbouring an offender ...	212, 216	18	25	10	15	...	
96	Taking gift to screen an offender ...	213 to 215	28	71	27	41	...	3
97	Public servant fraudulently defeating punishment or forfeiture ...	217, 218	3	5	3	2	...	...
98	Public servant omitting to apprehend or suffering to escape ...	221, 222	9	22	12	10	...	...

No. 2.—*Continued.*

Number.	Nomenclature of Offences.	Number of Section of Indian Penal Code or other Penal Law applicable.	Number of offences reported during the year.	Number of persons under trial during the year.	Number of persons acquitted and discharged.	Number of persons convicted and committed.	Died, escaped, or transferred.	Remaining under trial at the end of the year.
	BAILABLE.—*Continued.*							
99	Public servant negligently suffering an escape ...	223	55	71	12	58	...	1
100	Resistance to lawful apprehension, and rescue ...	224, 225	137	212	53	152	2	5
101	Insulting a public servant during judicial proceedings ...	228	72	80	4	76	...	...
102	Personating a juror or assessor ...	229	2	4	...	4	...	...
103	Using or preparing, for use a stamp known to have been used before ...	261 to 263	13	17	9	8	...	...
104	Using, possessing, making or selling false weights or measures ...	264 to 267	93	166	72	93	...	1
105	Negligently or malignantly endangering human life,	269, 270, 279 280, 282, 285 286, 289	225	208	64	142	...	2
106	Adulterating or selling adulterated food ...	272, 273	80	123	39	81	...	...
107	Do. Do. Do. drugs ...	274, 275	17	19	3	16	...	...
108	Knowingly selling one drug as another ...	276	1	1	...	1	...	...
109	Defiling the water of a public reservoir ...	277	28	72	27	45	...	...
110	Making atmosphere noxious to health ...	278	6	38	7	31	...	...
111	Obstructing a public way ...	283	51	311	74	237	...	...
112	Committing nuisance ...	291	166	863	258	603	...	2
113	Selling or possessing obscene books ...	292, 293	3	5	...	5	...	...
114	Obscene songs ...	294	19	42	13	29	...	...
115	Religious insult ...	295, 297	81	214	136	61	...	17
116	Disturbing religious assembly ...	296	7	22	17	5	...	...
117	Causing death by rash or negligent act ...	304 A	53	59	14	41	...	1
118	Attempt to commit culpable homicide ...	308	3	4	2	2	...	...
119	Attempt to commit suicide ...	309	168	157	48	108	1	...
120	Causing miscarriage (simple) ...	312	21	38	25	13	...	...
121	Exposing and abandoning a child ...	317	17	10	5	5	...	...
122	Concealment of birth ...	318	43	39	13	25	...	1
123	Causing hurt ...	323, 334	2,873	5,874	3,158	2,654	1	61
124	Causing hurt by dangerous weapons ...	324	85	116	61	55	...	...
125	Causing hurt to extort confession, &c. ...	330, 332	15	17	10	5	...	2
126	Grievous hurt ...	325	505	735	219	501	...	15
127	Grievous hurt on grave and sudden provocation ...	335	48	89	20	68	...	1
128	Doing any act which endangers human safety ...	336, 337	15	24	15	9	...	...
129	Causing grievous hurt by an act which endangers human safety ...	338	10	18	4	13	...	1
130	Wrongful restraint ...	341	332	808	673	129	...	6
131	Wrongful confinement ...	342 to 344, 346	183	404	297	100	...	7
132	Wrongful confinement to extort property or confession	347, 348	21	53	37	16	...	...
133	Assault or use of criminal force ...	352 to 355, 357, 358	17,531	39,864	32,587	6,835	6	436
134	Buying or disposing of any person as a slave ...	370	7	7	7	...	...	...

No. 2.—*Continued.*

Number.	Nomenclature of Offences.	Number of Section of Indian Penal Code or other Penal Law applicable.	Number of offences reported during the year.	Number of persons under trial during the year.	Number of persons acquitted and discharged.	Number of persons convicted and committed.	Died, escaped, or transferred.	Remaining under trial at the end of the year.
	BAILABLE.—*Concluded.*							
135	Unlawful compulsory labor ...	374	3	4	3	1	...	...
136	Extortion ...	384, 385	177	344	262	78	...	4
137	Dishonest misappropriation ...	403, 404	449	711	252	446	...	13
138	Cheating ...	417 to 420	596	883	586	269	6	22
139	Fraudulent disposition of property ...	421, 422, 424	12	20	11	6	...	3
140	Executing a deed containing false statement of consideration ...	423	7	19	9	1	...	9
141	Mischief, ordinary ...	426, 427, 430 to 433	1,542	3,820	2,440	1,336	1	43
142	Mischief by poisoning or killing cattle ...	428, 429	531	577	301	262	...	14
143	Mischief by destroying land-marks ...	434	42	77	32	44	...	1
144	Mischief by fire ...	435	94	43	30	13	...	...
145	Criminal trespass ...	447	747	1,551	1,109	423	...	19
146	House-trespass (simple) ...	448	432	600	328	269	...	3
147	House-trespass in order to commit an offence (other than theft) punishable with imprisonment ...	451	31	36	6	29	...	1
148	Dishonestly opening a closed receptacle ...	461, 462	13	12	9	2	...	1
149	Forgery (simple) ...	465, 469, 471	78	143	94	45	...	4
150	Making or using false trade or property-mark ...	482 to 484 486 to 488	10	28	23	5	...	...
151	Removing or destroying a property mark ...	489	4	10	6	3	...	
152	Criminal breaches of contracts of service ...	490 to 492	27	41	28	13	...	...
153	Bigamy ...	494	100	244	209	30	1	4
154	Adultery ...	497	122	148	83	64	...	
155	Enticing away a married woman ...	498	3,403	4,699	3,872	683	15	129
156	Defamation ...	500 to 502	222	410	321	75	...	14
157	Insult ...	504, 509	424	696	505	186	...	5
158	Criminal intimidation ...	506, 507, 508	56	94	82	12	...	...
159	Being drunk and disorderly ...	510	9	11	4	7	...	...
	II.—OFFENCES UNDER THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE.							
160	Contempts and disobedience of orders ...	435 C. P. C.	94	119	4	115	...	...
161	Frivolous or vexatious complaints ...	209 „	658	716	1	715	...	...
162	Recognizance to keep the peace ...	489 „	768	2,780	809	1,938	...	33
163	Security to keep the peace ...	490 „	1,787	6,170	1,206	4,956	...	8
164	Lurking without ostensible means of subsistence ...	504 „	404	550	165	382	3	...
165	Bad livelihood ...	505, 506 „	5,189	6,969	1,131	5,815	7	16
166	Local nuisance ...	Chap. XXXIX C. P. C.	101	674	173	483	...	18
167	Disputes relating to possession of land ...	„ XL „	85	275	256	19	...	...
168	Maintenance of wives and children ...	„ XLI „	2,660	2,651	2,083	567	1	60

No. 2.—*Continued.*

Number.	Nomenclature of Offences.	Number of Section of Indian Penal Code or other Penal Law applicable.	Number of offences reported during the year.	Number of persons under trial during the year.	Number of persons acquitted and discharged.	Number of persons convicted and committed.	Died, escaped, or transferred.	Remaining under trial at the end of the year.
	II.—OFFENCES UNDER THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE.—*Concluded.*							
169	Proceedings to compel payment of penalty by accused,	Section 396 C. P. C.	28	48	6	42	...	...
170	Proceedings to compel payment of penalty by sureties,	„ 397 „	46	54	9	40	...	5
171	Recovery of penalty from principal ...	„ 502 „	2	2	...	2	...	...
172	Do. Do. from sureties ...	„ 514 „	54	76	12	61	1	2
	III.—OFFENCES UNDER SPECIAL AND LOCAL LAWS.							
173	Breach of laws relating to Excise on spirits and drugs ...	Acts X of 1871, and XVI of 1863	341	853	165	682	...	6
174	Do. Do. Opium ...	Acts X of 1871 IV and XXVI of 1872	255	433	130	301	1	1
175	Do. Do. Customs ...	Act VIII of 1875	515	870	80	781	2	7
176	Do. Do. Stamps ...	Act XVIII of 1869	272	533	151	378	1	3
177	Do. Do. Post Office ...	Act XIV of 1866	23	30	8	22	...	...
178	Do. Do. Eletric Telegraph ...	Act VIII of 1860	3	4	2	2	...	...
179	Do. Do. Prisons ...	Act XXVI of 1870	31	34	6	28	...	...
180	Do. Do. Forests ...	Act VII of 1865 and Rules of 1855,	758	2,414	533	1,854	1	26
181	Do. Do. Ferries ...	...	7	22	8	14	...	...
182	Do. Do. Canals ...	Act VIII of 1873,	634	1,729	534	1,195	...	...
183	Do. Do. Railways ...	Acts XVIII of 1854, XIII of 1870 and XXV of 1871,	136	173	30	140	...	3
184	Do. Do. Stage Coaches ...	Act XVI of 1861,	18	25	9	16	...	...
185	Do. Do. Printing Presses ...	Act XXV of 1867,	1	1	...	1	...	...
186	Do. Do. Gaming ...	Act III of 1867,	282	1,380	364	1,015	1	...
187	Do. Do. Wandering and dangerous lunatics ...	Act XXXVI of 1858,	4	4	4	...	...	...
188	Do. Do. Cattle Trespass ...	Act I of 1871,	1,007	2,913	2,126	764	...	23
189	Do. Do. Arms ...	Acts XXXI of 1860 and VI of 1866,	151	190	50	140	...	...
190	Do. Do. Emigration ...	Act VII of 1871,	16	36	6	20	10	...
191	Do. Do. City Choukidars ...	Act XX of 1856,	7	18	9	9	...	...
192	Do. Do. Cantonments ...	Act XXII of 1864,	2,713	4,882	573	4,309	...	...
193	Do. Do. Nuisances ...	Sec. 34 of Act V of 1861,	4,362	8,139	735	7,401	...	...
194	Do. Do. Breach of Police Act by Police Officers, ...	Act V of 1861,	34	50	11	39	...	...
195	Do. Do. Offences punishable under Police Act ...	Do.	28	36	11	24	1	...
196	Do. Do. Nuisances under Punjab Munpl. Act, ...	Act IV of 1873,	3,156	5,672	1,358	4,307	...	7
197	Do. Do. Other offences under Municipal Act ...	Do.	292	414	111	303	...	...

Number.	Nomenclature of Offences.	Number of Section of Indian Penal Code or other Penal Law applicable.	Number of offences reported during the year.	Number of persons under trial during the year.	Number of persons acquitted and discharged.	Number of persons convicted and committed.	Died, escaped, or transferred.	Remaining under trial at the end of the year.
	III.—OFFENCES UNDER SPECIAL AND LOCAL LAWS.—*concluded.*							
198	Breach of laws relating to Purchasing soldiers' necessaries, stores, &c., and other offences under the Mutiny Act and ...	Act VII of 1867,	3	3	...	3	...	...
199	Do. Do. Do. Breaches of contract by artificers & workmen ...	Act XIII of 1859,	165	285	256	27	...	2
200	Do. Do. Do. Breaches of contract by workmen on Railways and other public works ...	Act IX of 1860,	1	...	...	...	...	...
201	Do. Do. Do. European Vagrancy...	Act IX of 1874,	4	4	2	2	...	...
202	Do. Do. Do. Registration ...	Act VIII of 1871,	22	39	14	23	..	2
203	Do. Do. Do. Criminal Tribes and Eunuchs ...	Act XXVII of 1871,	300	434	55	372	7	...
204	Do. Do. Do. Village Watchmen ...	Act IV of 1872,	216	345	103	217	...	25
205	Do. Do. Do. Village Headmen ...	Do.	27	56	16	40	...	...
206	Do. Do. Do. Track law ...	Do.	30	49	13	33	3	...
207	Do. Do. Do. Other rules under Punjab Laws' Act,	Do.	132	441	73	307	...	61
208	Do. Do. Do. Prostitutes ...	Act XXII of 1864,	602	1,166	143	1,023	...	...
209	Do. Do. Do. Indian Merchants Seaman's Act ...	Act XIII of 1876,	1	1	1	...	...	...
210	Do. Do. Do. Murderous outrages...	Act XXIII of 1867,	1	1	...	1	...	...
211	Frontier Regulation I of 1872, Section 3 ...	...	8	32	...	32	...	...
212	Do. Do. Do. „ 4 ...	...	14	18	...	18	...	...
213	Do. Do. Do. „ 8 ...	...	17	52	16	36	...	...
214	Do. Do. IV of 1873 „ 2 ...	...	...	1,178	563	584	...	31

IMPERIAL RETURN.

No. 3.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE GENERAL RESULT OF CRIMINAL TRIALS IN THE TRIBUNALS OF THE VARIOUS CLASSES IN THE PROVINCE OF THE PUNJAB IN THE YEAR 1877.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
CLASS OF TRIBUNALS.	NUMBER OF PERSONS DEALT WITH.							PERSONS DISPOSED OF.									
	Remaining at end of last year.	*Brought to trial during the year.*												Remaining at end of the year.	Average number of days during which each case lasted.	No. of witnesses who attended.	REMARKS.
		Upon arrest by Police.	Upon warrant.	On summons.	Voluntarily.	Received by transfer.	TOTAL.	Discharged without trial.	Acquitted.	Convicted.	Committed or referred.	Died, escaped or transfered.	TOTAL.				
Unpaid Magistrates	40	7,542	849	17,880	793	...	27,104	8,460	4,573	13,969	2	6	27,010	94	7	26,716	
Paid Magistrates with local jurisdiction ...	576	25,791	2,842	39,274	2,971	8	71,462	25,838	8,607	36,117	93	32	70,687	775	7	78,885	
Paid first, second, and third class Magistrates exercising jurisdiction throughout the district	817	23,632	5,078	18,614	1,505	22	49,608	17,806	5,190	25,054	654	130	48,834	774	10	83,185	
Chief Magistrate of the district	136	4,256	334	1,492	128	5	6,351	1,137	677	4,248	80	57	6,199	152	6	7,077	
Deputy Commissioners under Section 36, Act X of 1872	24	1,116	225	57	8	...	1,430	333	103	952	...	5	1,393	37	13	5,592	
TOTAL MAGISTRACY ...	1,593	62,337	9,268	77,317	5,405	35	155,955	53,574	19,150	80,340	829	230	154,123	1,832	8	201,455	
Sessions Courts	103	773	...	...	...	...	876	...	218	511	86	2	817	59	55	4,786	
Chief Court	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	28	3	
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,696	63,111	9,268	77,317	5,405	35	156,832	53,574	19,369	80,851	915	232	154,941	1,891	17	206,244	

IMPERIAL RETURN **No. 4.**

STATEMENT SHOWING THE PUNISHMENTS INFLICTED BY THE VARIOUS CLASSES OF CRIMINAL TRIBUNALS IN THE PUNJAB DURING THE YEAR 1877.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38
	PERSONS SENTENCED TO												PERSONS ORDERED TO FIND OR GIVE.			DETAIL OF PUNISHMENTS.																					
		TRANSPORTATION.			IMPRISONMENT.				FINE.		WHIPPING.					FINE.								IMPRISONMENT.												WHIPPING.		
					Rigorous.																				One month.		Six months.		Two years.		Seven years.		Above 7 years.				
CLASS OF CRIMINAL TRIBUNALS.	Death.	For life.	For a term.	Penal servitude.	With solitary confinement.	Without solitary confinement.	Simple.	Forfeiture of property.	With imprisonment.	Without imprisonment.	In addition to other punishment.	In lieu of other punishment.	Surety of the peace.	Recognizance.	Suretics for good behaviour.	Rs. 10 and under.	Rs. 50.	Rs. 100.	Rs. 500.	Rs. 1,000.	Above Rs. 1,000.	Total amount of fines.	Amount realised.	Amount paid by way of compensation.	Rigorous.	Simple.	Rigorous.	Simple.	Rigorous.	Simple.	Rigorous.	Simple.	Rigorous.	Simple.	Ten stripes and under.	Twenty stripes and under.	Thirty stripes and under.
Unpaid Magistrates ..	..	..	..	..	485	755	101	..	723	12,150	26	84	4	..	312	12,079	751	67	6	..	..	50,081	38,131	1,816	439	99	586	8	215	..	..	..	..	..	49	42	19
Paid Magistrates with local jurisdiction ..	..	..	..	..	2,443	3,197	343	..	4,518	25,498	77	1,498	1,252	417	1,027	26,133	3,750	109	22	..	..	1,88,574	1,34,374	12,238	1,850	173	3,863	66	427	5	..	..	..	..	496	723	351
Paid first, 2nd and 3rd class Magistrates exercising jurisdiction throughout the districts ..	..	..	..	..	4,507	2,592	232	..	4,898	7,274	241	1,430	2,826	1,825	3,957	7,241	4,394	413	111	13	..	2,27,662	1,10,267	18,623	969	140	2,556	96	3,558	16	16	..	..	..	290	761	694
Chief Magistrate of the district ..	..	..	..	..	720	346	38	..	571	1,281	59	275	257	313	901	893	699	166	91	1	2	58,994	31,096	10,654	135	18	257	9	639	6	5	..	..	..	56	154	124
Deputy Commissioners under Sec. 36, Act X of 1872 ..	..	..	6	..	630	189	4	..	456	162	44	47	..	..	..	151	314	96	54	1	2	40,503	11,451	3,803	18	5	73	1	240	..	488	..	..	..	1	31	59
TOTAL MAGISTRACY ..	..	..	6	..	8,785	7,079	683	..	11,166	46,396	447	3,334	4,339	2,555	6,197	46,497	9,908	851	234	15	4	5,65,904	3,25,368	42,187	3,411	427	6,865	179	5,079	27	509	..	..	..	892	1,716	1,173
Sessions Courts ..	86	118	35	..	198	118	10	9	170	24	9	8	35	22	80	6	122	89	27	..	..	14,102	1,302	321	25	9	40	..	83	1	136	..	27	..	1	1	15
Chief Court ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
GRAND TOTAL ..	86	118	41	..	8,983	7,197	693	9	11,336	46,417	456	3,342	4,374	2,577	6,227	46,508	10,030	990	311	15	4	5,80,006	3,26,670	42,508	3,436	436	6,905	179	5,167	28	645	..	27	..	893	1,717	1,188

IMPERIAL RETURN.

No. 5.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE RESULT OF APPEAL AND REVISION IN CRIMINAL CASES IN THE PROVINCE OF THE PUNJAB DURING THE YEAR 1877.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Tribunals.	Number of persons or appellants applying for revision under Section 297 C. P. Code.	Number of Persons: Appeals or applications rejected.	Sentences confirmed.	Sentences modified and enhanced.	Sentences reversed.	Proceedings quashed.	Further evidence or enquiry ordered.	Pending.	Cases referred for revision to Chief Court.	Remarks.
Magistrate of District. Appeals from Unpaid Magistrates,	...	127	259	79	172	1	32	17	8	
Appeals from Paid Magistrates ...	...	427	1,523	651	770	8	204	31	99	
TOTAL ...	...	554	1,782	730	942	9	236	48	107	
Sessions Court. Appeals from Unpaid Magistrates,	...	...	58	3	17	...	2	1	...	
Appeals from Paid Magistrates ...	...	120	2,239	289	533	1	59	93	...	
TOTAL ...	...	120	2,297	292	550	1	61	94	...	
Chief Court. Appeals	...	215	241	59	85	...	12	88	...	
Revisions	826	806	245	80	249	66	...	77	...	
TOTAL ...	826	1,021	486	139	334	66	12	165	...	
GRAND TOTAL ...	826	1,695	4,565	1,161	1,826	76	309	307	107	

IMPERIAL RETURN.

No. 11.

STATEMENT SHOWING USE OF JURIES AND ASSESSORS IN THE CRIMINAL COURTS OF THE PROVINCE OF THE PUNJAB IN THE YEAR 1877.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
COURTS.	Established or average number of Jury or Assessors in each case, and prescribed qualifications.	Number of cases tried by Jury.	Number of cases with Assessors.	Jury trials. Cases in which Judge approved of verdict.	Jury trials. Cases in which Judge did not approve of verdict.	Assessors' trials. Cases in which Judge agreed with Assessors.	Assessors' trials. Cases in which Judge differed from Assessors.	Note showing in what class of cases Juries and Assessors have been principally employed.
Chief Court	9	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Commissioner's (Sessions) Court.								
Delhi	3	...	14	...	...	13	1	In all Sessions Trial.
Hissár	3	...	22	...	...	15	7	
Umbálla	3	...	28	...	...	26	2	
Julundur	3	...	27	...	...	26	1	
Amritsar	3	...	28	...	...	*25	3	
Lahore	3	...	37	...	...	29	8	
Ráwalpindi	2	...	59	...	...	49	10	
Mooltan	3	...	36	...	...	36	...	
Dernját	3	...	25	...	...	25	...	
Peshawar	2	...	106	...	...	*106	...	
Total	3	1	382	1	...	*350	32	

* In 15 cases the Assessors were not called on to give their opinion.

Proceedings of the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, in the Home Department,—No. 2301, dated 17th June 1878.

READ—

Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice for the year 1877, furnished by the Registrar of the Chief Court, received on the 15th May.

REMARKS.—The Report has been received in good time, as on former occasions.

2. In accordance with the usual practice, the Lieutenant-Governor will defer any general review of the state of crime till the annual report of the Inspector-General of Police comes under consideration. It will be sufficient to note that there has been a considerable increase in non-bailable crime, the cases brought to trial being 15,570 in 1877, as against 14,056 in 1876, and the number of such offences reported during the year being larger than in any previous year since 1873. The increase occurred mainly under the heads of lurking house-trespass and house-breaking, and, to judge from the districts in which it was most marked, there is a probability that the cause assigned, namely, the pressure of high prices and the distress which followed the failure of the autumn rains, is the correct one.

3. In regard to the statistics of bailable offences, it is explained that the returns do not include the complaints of private persons dismissed by the magistrate after the examination of the complainant, and the Judges are of opinion that a more correct idea would be obtained of the relation between offences reported, offences admitted to have occurred, and offences brought to trial if such complaints were included in the returns, together with the police reports upon which no action is taken. The Lieutenant-Governor considers that the main object of these returns is to test the action of the police, and this, in his opinion, would not be elucidated if the proposal of the Judges were adopted, which would merely result in presenting information as to the number of false or unnecessary complaints of bailable offences made by private persons; and further, it may not unfrequently happen that cases dismissed under Section 147 of the Criminal Procedure Code may belong to the class referred to in the 26th paragraph of the Report, in which compromises and amicable adjustments are effected after the complaint has been lodged. Such cases should obviously be kept distinct from police cases, and the Lieutenant-Governor would prefer that the returns should maintain their present form, rather than that complaints of private individuals dismissed by the Magistrate should be shown together with bailable and non-bailable offences struck off the register as not having occurred.

4. During the year 154,362 persons were sent up for trial by Magistrates in the exercise of their original jurisdiction, and, including 1,593 persons waiting trial at the close of 1876, there were 155,955 persons for disposal. Of these 829 were committed to the Court of Sessions, 80,340 were convicted, 19,150 were acquitted, 53,574 were discharged, and 230 died, escaped or were transferred, leaving 1,832 for trial at the end of the year. The percentage of persons committed for, and convicted of, non-bailable offences to those brought to trial, was 70·9 as compared with 68·3 in the previous year, and the similar percentages in the case of bailable offences were 30·3 and 32·2 respectively. The result in the case of non-bailable offences is, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, satisfactory; in the case of bailable offences, the causes above alluded to, such as the withdrawal of complaints on the intervention of friends, and compromises made after the prosecution has begun, necessarily operate with uncertainty. The general result is that 52·7 per cent. of the persons brought to trial were committed or convicted; this is better than the proportion attained in 1876, which was 52·3 per cent., but there was in 1875 a larger number of convictions as compared with the number of persons tried, the percentage standing then at 55.

5. The percentage of persons tried for serious crimes to the population of the different Divisions, has increased slightly in 1877, but the proportion is still small, the highest figure being 1·8 per 1,000 of population, as in the

previous year. The percentages of the Delhi and Hissar Divisions were most affected by the increase in non-bailable crime, which has been already noticed.

6. In regard to the agency for disposal of criminal work, the question of the amount which should properly be performed by Tahsildars has been much discussed on previous occasions. There has been again an increase in the number of cases decided by these officers, from 20,170 in 1876 to 21,058 in 1877; but this has merely kept pace with the general increase in the number of offences dealt with, inasmuch as the proportion of the work disposed of by these officers stands in the same relation to that of the other officers of the Province as it did before; the increase, moreover, is absolutely small. The Lieutenant-Governor, however, hopes that the steps taken by the Judges to keep down the number of cases entrusted to Tahsildars will prove effectual; he admits that the average number of cases decided by each of such officers, which does not exceed 175 cases a year, is not excessive, but in the Gujrát, Kángra, Hoshiárpur, Amritsar, Jullundur and Siálkot Districts, measures should be adopted to prevent the Tahsildars being over-burdened with criminal investigations.

7. In the review of the Criminal Report for 1876 it was requested that particular notice might be taken of the Boards of Honorary Magistrates and other Honorary Judicial Officers who might deserve special commendation. With this request the Judges have complied, and the Lieutenant-Governor remarks with satisfaction on the tribute to the efficiency and usefulness of the Delhi, Mooltan, Gujranwala and Lahore Boards. Amongst the Honorary and Jagirdar Magistrates his acknowledgments are specially due to Sirdar Ajit Singh, Raja Surat Singh, Shahzadah Nadir, Pir Abas Khan, Sirdar Jhanda Singh, and Sodhi Man Singh, and he also hears with pleasure that the services of Bedi Sujan Singh, Sirdar Rajindar Singh, the Raja of Nadaon, Raja Sir Sahib Dyal, K.C.S.I., and Diwan Narinjan Das, have been specially brought to notice in the divisional and district reports.

8. As regards the procedure followed by Boards of Honorary Magistrates, His Honor agrees with the Judges in thinking that, where due precautions are taken to see that the course laid down in Sections 227 and 228 of the Criminal Procedure Code is followed, there is no objection to the benches making a free use of their summary powers in the petty cases which come before them; and he is glad to hear that attention has been drawn to the remarks recorded last year to the effect that Honorary Boards should exercise more largely their power of summary trial, unless there are any special reasons which render the exercise of such powers undesirable.

9. In 1877, 726 cases were disposed of by Deputy Commissioners in the exercise of their enhanced powers under Section 36 of Act X. of 1872, as against 715 in the previous year. The Judges remark that the Deputy Commissioner of Peshawar did, not in any instance, exercise this special jurisdiction, and they regret that in a part of the country noted for serious crime use should not have been made of this procedure, inasmuch as, when all cases in which a heavier sentence than two years' imprisonment is required, are committed to the Sessions delay is frequently involved, and the deterrent effect of the punishment is weakened. The Lieutenant-Governor observes that the staff of this district has been now much strengthened, and that these cases will be taken up for the future in the District Court. It appears that of the persons tried by the Deputy Commissioner of Muzaffargarh under Section 36, 83 per cent. were acquitted or discharged; this result, which attracted the attention of the Chief Court, and led to a special reference to the Commissioner of Mooltan, seems to suggest want of care in beginning the enquiries.

10. The statistics regarding the original work of Courts of Session show that there were, for disposal 426 cases, involving 876 persons; that only 37 cases were pending at the close of the year; and that the date of the oldest undisposed of case was the 27th July 1877, the delay in this instance being fully accounted for. The results of the labours of the Courts of Session are, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, all good. The general percentage of convictions in sessions trials has increased from 62 to 73, which is very satisfactory. In particular, His Honor is glad to observe the good result attained in the Deraját Division, where

85 per cent. of the persons brought to trail were convicted; and he accepts the explanation given of the low percentage in the Hissar Division, where injudicious committals in the Badli grain riot case led to many persons being acquitted.

11. The subject of the diet of witnesses is one which has been frequently referred to, and the present report, no less than its predecessor, shows that there are still great inequalities, both in the number of witnesses dieted and in the cost incurred. The Judges, however, are unable, on their present information, to form an opinion as to how far these variations are due to legitimate causes, and they propose only to ask the Deputy Commissioners of the Districts in which the inequalities are most marked, to bear the matter in mind in examining the files and registers of their subordinate courts, and to take notice of all cases in which error has occurred. This proposal the Lieutenant-Governor thinks sufficiently meets the requirements of the case; but, as formerly observed, the subject should not be lost sight of.

12. The Judges express satisfaction that in most districts, the bulk of the criminal appellate business is taken up by the District Officer, as they consider that the hearing of criminal appeals gives a most useful insight into the criminal administration of the district, which it is desirable that the Deputy Commissioner should possess. This satisfaction the Lieutenant-Governor shares, and he trusts that the course approved by the Judges will be that usually followed by the District Officers. With reference to the procedure in appeals, the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that it is much the better plan to observe strictly the provisions of the law and to reject, under Section 278, petitions in which the appellant is unable to make out any *prima facie* ground for interference; he thinks that the practice which apparently prevails in some districts of admitting all appeals at once to a hearing under Section 279, is likely to lead to unnecessary delay. His Honor is glad to remark that appeals in Sessions Courts were disposed of with promptitude, the average duration ranging from 6 days in the Derajat Division to 38 days in the Mooltan Division, that for the Province being 16 days, as compared with 22 days in the previous year.

13. With reference to punishments, it is satisfactory to find the Judges able to state that the law relating to solitary confinement is now carefully and systematically worked, as a rule; but in the districts noticed in paragraph 97 of the Report, and specified in the margin, attention is required. The Lieutenant-Governor concurs with the Judges in thinking that whipping was, with great propriety, largely resorted to in punishing petty thefts of grain during the scarcity in the Delhi, Gurgaon, Rohtak and Sialkot Districts. In District Courts the average incidence of fine has risen from Rs. 9 to Rs. 10, and the percentage of realizations has fallen from 61 to 58. The Lieutenant-Governor thinks with the Chief Court that the decrease in realizations may be attributable, in part, to the scarcity prevalent in some Districts; but, as pointed out by the Court, 'the realizations in any given year cannot, in comparison with the fines imposed during the same period, afford accurate data for conclusions, for the reason that fines accompanying long terms of imprisonment are not usully paid till the term of imprisonment is drawing to a close, and thus, to complete the account, a cycle of several years has to be taken into view. Notwithstanding this consideration, the Lieutenant-Governor would be glad to be further informed, if practicable, as to the reasons why, out of Rs. 87,442, the total amount of fines ordered to be paid by way of compensation, only 15 per cent. could actully be so paid. The cases in which orders for compensation would be passed would not, it seems to him, be ordinarily such as involve serious criminality, and in consequence carry with them long term sentences, and therefore in this case there would appear some ground to expect that the proportion of realizations to the amount directed to be paid in compensation should be higher.

Simla.	Rawalpindi.
Jullundur.	Gujrat.
Hoshiarpur.	Dera Ghazi Khan.
Amritsar.	Bannu.
Lahore.	Kohat.

14. The statements furnished on the subject of the preventive jurisdiction of Magistrates bring out the result that a far larger number of persons was required to give security to keep the peace on the frontier than in the whole of

the rest of the Province, the numbers being for the frontier Districts of Peshawar, Bannu, Hazára and Dera Ismail Khan, 4,533, as against 2,361 in the other parts of the Punjab. The Lieutenant-Governor has no doubt that sufficient reasons exist to account for this circumstance; and he feels sure that Frontier Officers have exercised their authority in this respect with discretion; but he would, at the same time, be glad to be informed whether the peculiarity now noticed is in accordance with the experience of pervious years, or whether there has been in 1877 any marked divergence from former results.

15. Of the total number of persons from whom security for good behaviour was demanded under Chapter XXXVIII. of the Criminal Procedure Code, 23 per cent. were imprisoned in default, the proportion in 1876 having been 28 per cent. The Lieutenant-Governor trusts that the diminution is due to the strict observance of the orders which require the amount of security to be within the means of the persons from whom it is demanded. There is no statement in the report showing the number of cases under this chapter for each District, and His Honor is therefore unable to examine the relations between the cases of security for good behaviour and the number of cases of house-breaking and house-trespass, with which he thinks the exercise of this jurisdiction has a close connection. In paragraph 22 the Judges remark that about 80 per cent. of the total number of persons, who committed burglarious attacks upon house property during the year, escaped punishment, and that this result proves that house-breaking is a crime with which the police are at present unable to cope. Offences of this class are, the Lieutenant-Governor believes, in the great majority of cases, committed by old offenders, and not by young hands. Experience, he thinks, has shown that burglarious offences diminish greatly when active measures are taken for placing persons of known bad character upon security for good behaviour. It is not necessary that these measures should be oppressive, but His Honor thinks that they should not be left to the police only. The Deputy Commissioner should use the headmen of villages, and during his tour in the district should inquire who the persons of notoriously bad character are, and should place them upon security, making the amount of the security bond proportional to the means of the accused person. The Judges have recently called for detailed information showing how the law on this subject has worked for the last three years, and the Lieutenant-Governor will await the submission of this report before stating his final conclusions. But in particular His Honor would be glad to be informed of the number of persons on security for good behaviour in the districts noted in paragraph 11 of the report, where the offences of lurking house-trespass and house-breaking were conspicuous during the year. He further notes that, in paragraph 22, the increase of non-bailable cases of house-trespass and house-breaking is stated to be marked in the Siálkot and Kángra districts, whereas it appears from paragraph 110 of the Report that in these two districts the numbers called upon to furnish security for good behaviour were respectively 108 and 27. These numbers are decidedly small, and in so far as the state of crime of this description in these districts is concerned, the remarks above recorded on the connection between these professional offences and the due exercise of this preventive jurisdiction seem to be borne out.

16. With reference to the award of compensation, under Section 209, in cases of frivolous and vexatious complaints, the Lieutenant-Governor admits the difficulty stated that it is often impossible to affirm positively that there was no just ground for complaint, even in cases where the accused person is acquitted; but he approves of the instructions of the Judges to the effect that, whenever a complaint is dismissed in a case in which compensation can be awarded, the question of awarding compensation should be always considered by the Court, and he is glad to find that supervising authorities have been requested to pay special attention to the point as to whether this is invariably done.

17. Turning to the jurisdiction of the Chief Court, it is reported that in 1876 only 46 appeals were rejected and 465 confirmed by a Bench, whereas in 1877, 215 were rejected and 241 confirmed, the reason being that the present practice of the Court is only to admit to a Bench, cases in which there seem

primâ facie grounds for interference, whereas formerly in all cases where it was considered desirable to send for the files notice was usually given to the respondent, and the appeal at once laid before the Bench. The present arrangement is, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, a very good one, but he fails to understand why it should have contributed to raise the average duration of criminal appeals from 29 to 39 days; he would have supposed that the present method would have shortened rather than have prolonged, the proceedings.

18. His Honor is glad to find that the treatment of habitual offenders continues to be carefully watched.

19. The thanks of Government are due to the Judges for the manner in which they have supervised and controlled the administration of criminal justice during the year. His Honor agrees with the Chief Court in thinking that the supervision exercised by the Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners over their subordinate Courts has been generally efficient, and he is glad to hear that useful reports of the results of inspections were received by the Chief Court from the officers noted in the margin. He has only to regret that since the early part of the year, when the Ferozpur Courts were inspected by Mr. Justice Boulnois, the Judges of the Chief Court have been unable to attempt the inspection of any of the Courts subordinate to them.

Colonel Graham, Commissioner, Mooltan.
Colonel Davies, Commissioner, Delhi.
Mr. Perkins, Commissioner, Amritsar.
Major Gurdon, while Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana.
Mr. Coldstream, Deputy Commissioner, Hoshiarpur.
Mr. T. W. Smyth, Deputy Commissioner, Delhi.
Major Beadon, Deputy Commissioner, Jullundur.
Major Harcourt, Deputy Commissioner, Jhang.
Mr. Bulman, Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Gujranwalla.
Mr. Fryer, Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Dera Ghazi Khan.
Major Macaulay, Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Dera Ismail Khan.
Captain Massy, when officiating as Deputy Commissioner, Rawalpindi.

ORDER.—Ordered that copy of the foregoing be forwarded to the Registrar of the Chief Court, for the information of the Judges, and for annexure to, and circulation with, the Report.

Ordered also, that copy be printed and published in the *Punjab Government Gazette*.

By order of the Hon'ble the Lieutenant Governor of the Punjab.

J. G. CORDERY,
Officiating Secretary to Government, Punjab.

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